



PRESS RELEASE

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Cattlemen Disappointed in State Legislature's Disrespect for Oregon Agriculture

Salem, OR – March 4, 2022. Yesterday, House Bill 4002B passed in the Senate and is now on its way to Gov. Kate Brown for signature or veto. The Oregon Cattleman's Association (OCA) is extremely disappointed in the result of this bill moving forward without careful consideration for the family farmers, ranchers and ag employees who will be negatively impacted as a result.

"The Oregon Legislature continues to show detachment from the realities of crop and animal agriculture on all fronts," said OCA President Todd Nash, "once again they have refused to adequately fund wolf depredation compensation and they listen closer and closer to radical, anti-ranching groups more than the actual people involved in the ag industry."

Cattle producers have been engaged in every work group process to oppose or suggest amendments to HB 4002B without avail.

"At every turn regulations are crippling our industry," said Nash, "Oregon Dept. of Agriculture is seeking more funds from cattle producers for brand inspection expenses on top of everything else. We can't afford to pay everyone's bills. To paraphrase: the rancher sells wholesale, buys retail and pays freight both ways."

Oregon's Ag Coalition has submitted a request for veto to Gov. Brown of HB 4002B. As it stands, this bill will corporatize Oregon agriculture, push families off farms, incentivize out of state ownership while reducing earning potential for farm employees and eliminate jobs.

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