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HOUSE MEMORIAL 49

55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2022

INTRODUCED BY

Rebecca Dow and Gail Armstrong

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH TO STUDY AND PROVIDE
RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO PROVIDE GREATER PROTECTIONS FOR
LIVESTOCK AND ADDRESS ECONOMIC LOSSES CAUSED BY THE
REINTRODUCTION OF THE MEXICAN WOLF.

WHEREAS, the United States fish and wildlife service
reintroduced Mexican wolves to areas in Arizona and New Mexico
in 1998; and

WHEREAS, many ranchers in the state have found the efforts
of the federal government to protect domestic animals from
depredation and provide compensation for economic losses to be
inadequate; and

WHEREAS, the depredation of a single domestic animal can
incur economic losses of more than one thousand dollars
(\$1,000); and

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WHEREAS, the behavior of livestock can be altered by the presence of predators, resulting in reduced weight gain, lower reproductive success and reduced meat quality; and

WHEREAS, the department of game and fish does not have its own program or compensation fund to address depredation by the Mexican wolf;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of game and fish be requested to study how to create greater protections for livestock and address economic losses caused by the reintroduction of the Mexican wolf and report its conclusions and recommendations to the appropriate legislative interim committee on or before October 31, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the director of the department of game and fish.