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Senator Mullin introduces Black Vulture Relief Act of 2025 in the Senate

[Oklahoma City, OK – May 22, 2025] – U.S. Senator Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.), along with Senators Tommy Tuberville (R-Ala.), Eric Schmitt (R-Mo.) and John Cornyn (R-Texas) introduced the Black Vulture Relief Act of 2025 on May 20, 2025.

This act allows farmers and ranchers to protect their livestock when threatened by predatory animals without big government interference. The Black Vultures Relief Act of 2025 removes the requirement for a depredation permit, allowing farmers and ranchers to take black vultures when the birds threaten their livestock. Poison is forbidden as a method of take.

“Oklahoma ranchers deserve the right to protect their livestock from threatening predators,” said Senator Mullin. “Attacks from black vultures are all too common and our ranchers are suffering the consequences. As a rancher myself, I know firsthand the implications of the rapidly growing black vulture population and the negative effect this has on livestock production. Removing the requirement for a depredation permit will allow Oklahomans the ability to do what is necessary to protect their livestock and reduce economic hardship. It’s vital to the livelihood of ranchers across the country that we get this fixed.”

This bill maintains the requirement for annual take reporting to the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), allowing the FWS to continue monitoring black vulture population levels.

“The Oklahoma Cattlemen’s Association is extremely grateful to Senator Mullin for introducing this bill to help cattle raisers protect their cattle,” said Michael Kelsey, OCA Executive Vice President. “Black Vultures are a predator to cattle, especially new mother cows and their baby calves. As a cattle producer, Senator Mullin knows the challenges that high populations of black vultures have presented to cattle raisers. This is great common-sense legislation that works well in ranch country.”

The OCA is the trusted voice of the Oklahoma Cattle Industry and works to protect and empower Oklahoma cattlemen today, to serve tomorrow. The OCA is the only voice that speaks solely for the cattlemen of Oklahoma and represents beef producers in all 77 counties across the state. The OCA officers, board of directors and membership encourages you to join us in our advocacy efforts to ensure less government intervention, lower taxes, and a better bottom line. For more information about OCA membership, the theft reward program or activities call 405-235-4391 or visit www.okcattlemen.org.

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