

MONDA HONEY FARM INC.

Jerod Monda

EAST GRAND FORKS, MN 56721

I am a 3rd-generation Bee Keeper who worked for my parents and grandfather and now I am running Monda Honey Farm Inc. out of East Grand Forks, MN which is on the ND border. My son Austin Monda is helping me run our 5000 colonies of Honey Bees mostly in the Northeast side of North Dakota. Out of the 120 bee yard locations that we have 96 are in the original sites that my father and grandfather set up. Bee Keeping is our only source of income.

In over 40 years of keeping bees in ND we have never had anyone ask us to move our bees because they were a nuisance or too close to a road. I believe this bill would be a huge problem for bee keepers and cause other issues. I oppose this bill.

Bees fly in a two-mile radius of their hives so the bees would continue to cross roads near and far from their bee locations. Land owners work with us on accessible locations that don't always allow us to drive a ¼ mile through their sunflower field but they will allow us to set the colonies on all four corners of the field. Land owners work with us to find locations that work for us and them. I also think that this bill will cause larger Bee Keeping Companies to double up their bee yards causing more problems. If the reason for this bill is because of bees are crossing the roadways I feel that gravel trucks hauling in the State of

North Dakota cause way more problems to vehicles than honey bees have.

Bee Keepers have enough problems to deal with just keeping our bees alive and if this bill passes there will be more problematic things to follow. I oppose this bill.

Thank you.

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218-779-9756