

February 1, 2023

Stangeland Farm and Ranch

Doug Stangeland

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To the committee of SB 2311:

I am writing in regards to this bill and my recent experience with the oil companies on my land. I am a 3rd generation farmer and I still farm the land that my grandfather homesteaded on. Our farm and ranch has been through many trials since its conception. Drought, Snow storms and other things that are out of our control.

Our family has been through many financial up and downs and we have had to adjust to these situations whether good or bad. In dealing with this we have had to make major financial decisions whether to continue the life of farming and ranching.

Now we are faced with a new battle that we seem to have never encountered in the new times of the oil industry that we as land and mineral owners have never faced.

We have had dealt with many oil companies in the past and have always had a good working relationship those involved thus far. Now we have a new obstacle that has seem to fall through the cracks of the Lessor to the leasee. So far we have two judgements filed on us for oil location that the contractors where not paid. So the lawyers for the plaintiffs feel that since we are the landowners, that we are now responsible for the construction build on the location that was leased by the oil company. They have put liens on our home and the property that this location is on. Now with these judgements that are filed against us, we cannot sell cattle or grains without them taking it. now this will affect our credit rating that we have worked hard to make good and our means of income from the farm.

We ask that you please pass this bill so that no other land owner will have to go through this battle to keep what they work so hard for and take pride in owning land. If this continues, it will cause adverse relations between land owner and oil companies.

Sincerely,

Doug Stangeland

