

Testimony of Desree Pettera in Support of SB 474

I am in support of any bill that limits City power. I live in a 3 mile zone and I have no voice. The city has threatened us. We own agricultural land. Specifically for ranching. If we remove our cattle, we were told by the city manager that he could take the right to graze this land from us.

We and others were standing up, and still are, to a proposed slaughterhouse off a proposed KDOT I 70 Interchange. We will continue to fight for our rights in this 3 mile zone.

The city annexes property in the 3 mile zone for what purpose? More Tax Dollars. The RE taxes on these properties will raise by 1/3. The numbers sort of shocked me. Sure encourages us to move.

These people they are trying to annex provide for themselves. They have water and septic systems. Law enforcement is provided by the County Sheriffs Dept. These people are receiving nothing except higher taxes. The city uses the "good old stand by" excuse that services are already provided.

Well 47 properties were annexed many, many years ago and many still have no services. Promises were made to many. Property owners can't fight a city with unlimited tax dollars to fight them with. We are powerless. We in the 3 mile zone cannot vote on city issues, but they can tell us how to live. We cannot hold an elected city seat to give us a voice in the 3 mile zone.

City power is out of control. Why can cities not understand that not everyone wants to live in a city? Why doesn't the state support our right to live in the rural world?

I hope this explains why I support this bill. To me this bill gives the city constituents themselves a little power to hone in city power.

Thank you for reading,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Desree Pettera". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "D".

Desree Pettera