

Proponent: HB 2025 Testimony

Time and again I see the government, whether it is Federal, State, County or City stealing land from landowners by various methods. These methods include eminent domain, comprehensive planning, or other impositions that lower property values and prevent landowners from using their land as they see fit. I speak mainly of agricultural landowners. Why is it necessary to impose upon landowners who feed the world? What is right about a city telling someone that they have no voting rights when it comes to their land that is within a 3-mile area of a city limits? What is right about telling landowners that the city is going to impose upon their land in that area without asking their opinions? What is right about a city who has unlimited resources to use lawyers to force landowners to comply with what a city wants to do withing 3 miles of the city limits when a landowner cannot afford to fight back? Urban sprawl is disgusting. Landowners in 3-mile corridors around cities have their landowner rights taken from them! What is right about that? I thought this was the United States of America, land where a person or family can pursue Life, Liberty and Happiness.

I don't think a city would like rural America to impose upon them by telling them that the streets will be paths for farmers and ranchers to feed their livestock on and their yards is where their livestock will graze and drop their manure. Or better yet, their city parks being turned into farm ground to grow crops.

My question is this, why was this ever put in to legislation that city governments could impose on people living and owning land outside city limits and not give them a vote when it is their

land that is being targeted.? In many cases solar and wind generation companies convince cities or counties that using rural land will benefit them only to later find out that the negative environmental impact far outweighs any money the government will see. Land values adjacent to these projects drop, which results in less property taxes. City and County governments are sort of shooting themselves in the foot, don't you think? Lower land values next to city projects in that 3-mile corridor doesn't benefit anyone and it usually causes landowners to be forced out of the land that is sometimes generationally owned land. Talk about destroying history for progress!

As a rural resident, I want to live in peace outside of a city. I don't want to be imposed on. This terrible ideology needs to go away. If you want cities to have food, stop imposing upon Rural America. Get rid of this type of legislation, please!

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