

To the Chairman and Members of the Local Government Committee:

On behalf of myself, my wife, my daughter and granddaughter, I would like to voice my support for HB2003 and also voice my opposition to the proposed Island Annexation by the City of Galena. This Island Annexation of the acreage at Lostine Road and US Highway 69A by Galena is 1.5 miles from our home that we built in 1995. Our concerns are as follows:

- 1) The water table in this area is very near ground level as evidenced by an old farm well on my property. The water in that well is less than 6 feet from the surface. That fact coupled with the proximity of local creeks raise a concern for the possibility of contamination of those waters.
- 2) People in this county have witnessed the declining property values, and sometimes non-marketability, of property in the area of the Wheatland Landfill on KS Hwy 7 located between Scammon, Kansas and Columbus, Kansas. We believe that the same will be true in the proximity of all property in the area of Galena's proposed landfill. No one wants to live, or build a home, in the proximity of a landfill.
- 3) There is no need in the foreseeable future for a landfill to serve this area. The current landfill serving this area has approximately 20 years of use and space available. The only need exhibited is that of the City of Galena to make a significant amount of money by entering into a landfill agreement with the "new" land owner of that property. That property was purchased for the express interest of the current proposition.
- 4) With no need by the local communities, this landfill may receive loads of waste from far reaching areas. This will increase the wear and tear on our local roadways, as well as increased truck traffic. That will put a further strain on our county budget.
- 5) A large owner (who is a friend of mine) offered to purchase this proposed annexation land from the recent buyer. They would add it to the acreage that they currently farm and therefore keep it as productive farm land and benefit our great State. Secondly, it would eliminate the adverse affects of a landfill, creating a Win Win.
- 6) Lastly, this is Government without representation. The elected officials of Galena's City Council have imposed their will on us, the people of Cherokee County. We have no voice, no ballot no recourse but to accept their decisions to line their city coffers.

I would appreciate your support in HB2003, as well as, an intervention in what is currently taking place in Cherokee County. If this land annexation comes to fruition, we will be left with no recourse but to sell our home and 60 acres and then move into Missouri.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter,
Joseph E Maghe
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