

HB2331

Opponent Testimony

Please note I am an owner of an outfitting business based in Kansas. PASSING THIS BILL WOULD MAKE ME MORE MONEY AND I AM STILL AGAINST IT!

I also sell hunting ranches for a living and see daily the value that large trophy deer bring to the landowners of your state, please see below.

Pretty simple, sportsmen/tourist dollars pour into Kansas not because of your ski slopes or your beaches, they flood in due to your world class deer herd. Your state is the #1 or #2 trophy whitetail deer state in the US. That reality produces another very simple reality. It makes your constituents land values for both sale AND lease much higher than they should be. This directly puts very nice sums of money in your voters pockets year in and year out. Said differently, out of state trophy hunters trip over themselves to overpay your residents to buy or lease Kansas land.

Now, if you pass this bill and allow MORE trophy deer tags to be issued and thus kill more trophy deer, Kansas' deer herd/ trophy quality will suffer and that demand from non residents will absolutely go somewhere else. This can and will happen in a season or two as we live in a connected world. I stress that you let your KDNR department handle how many tags are given out, they have gotten it right this far in turning Kansas into the Ferrari of the whitetail world.

To give a point blank example. I write your constituents an average of 75,000\$ per year in lease fee checks to hunt their land. You pass legislation that targets more trophy deer and the deer quality degrades..... I close my business and take that money to a different state.

THE WORLD CLASS QUALITY OF YOUR DEER HERD IS IN DIRECT RELATION TO THE INFLATED LEASE & SALE VALUE OF YOUR STATE'S RAW LAND. DON'T TAMPER WITH IT.

Thanks for your time.

GAINES SLADE | AGENT - LAND SPECIALIST
San Antonio, TX