

HB 2331
Proponent

My name is Don Erbert. I live just outside of Iola. I'm a businessman, outdoorsman, and family man. I spent 11 years on the Kansas State Board for the National Wild Turkey Federation, 6 of those years were as State Chapter President.

During that time our number one goal was helping the wild turkey. Our number 2 goal was getting people in the outdoors, or as I like to call it, Gods church.

I'm sure most of you are aware that 98% of the land in Kansas is privately owned. This was our biggest challenge in getting people a place to go so they could enjoy the great outdoors. So we pumped a lot of money into programs that opened up private land to everyone. This was usually done in conjunction with the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism thru the Walk in Hunting Area program and even helping the State purchase land parcels.

Iola Industries is trying to give you a parcel of land that has a beautiful lake and some very unique features for this area of the State. In these times of too much TV, Computers, Phones, and Social Media, I can not think of a better place for young people, old people, or anyone in between to commune with nature, or quite frankly, just have a really good time. It will make a beautiful gem in the treasure chest of the Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism.

And just so you know, politically, I'm as conservative as anyone in this State. This is a very generous gift to the State and it's up to you politicians who represents the people to make sure it becomes a gift to every single person of this State, for forever. As a businessman and outdoorsman I can not think of one downside. Thank you for your time and if there is any questions please feel free to ask me.

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