

Submitter: James Best
On Behalf Of: Self and Family owned Agricultural entities
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3573

There's a clear distinction between responsible data collection and invasive surveillance. My family farm has relied on its wells and irrigation systems to grow food for generations—long before external oversight became a concern. If data collection is truly the goal, then there should be transparent, voluntary, and non-intrusive methods rather than imposing open-ended scrutiny and regulation. Water is a fundamental right, not a privilege reserved for corporations like Nestlé or large industrial farms that can afford to navigate complex regulations. Forced monitoring sets a dangerous precedent, shifting control away from local farmers and toward bureaucracies that may not have their best interests at heart.