

Submitter: CJ Nugent

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural  
Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2808

Co Chairs Helm, Owens, and Members of the Committee.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony today.

I would like to confirm that the biggest Opposition I have of this bill is the raising of the Start Card Fee from 350\$ to 490\$. (it was initially proposed at 427\$ then somehow went to 490\$)

Assuming that HB 2165 gets passed and the department will get the funding they need to continue the next biennium as they currently are, I believe that gives us time as an industry and the department to collaboratively look at future legislation to make well construction and compliance to be further funded by the general fund and in the Departments biennium budget. In reality, this is such an important thing to preserve and protect Groundwater, I feel it must be addressed.

That said, Raising the Start cards (permit to drill a well) IS NOT the way to ensure compliance to the rules and Laws of Water Well Drilling. This will have even further negative consequences and will make it even easier for the population (most know nothing about drilling wells) to hire someone who is drilling wells illegally than to hire a professional that does the right thing and abides by the laws and rules of drilling in this state. (They will then see an 790\$ difference between equal well quotes)  
I should also note that the department gets a TOTAL of 650\$ currently for the drilling of EACH well if you include the 300\$ well recording fee after the Water Supply Report has been filed by the Driller.

Please oppose or ammend this bill to take out the proposal of the Start card fee increase.

Thank you for you consideration!

CJ Nugent

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