

TO: House Land Use Committee Members

Feb. 28, 2013

From: Garry Jebousek

Re: HB 2173

I heard about HB 2173 and after thinking about it for several days I would like to share my thoughts about it with you.

1. It sounds to me like one set of constituents (the Farm Bureau) wants to use the legislature to impose their will on another set of constituents (the other EFU land owners).
2. They (The FB) should have cut the crap and cut to the chase and written a bill that would have just prohibited anyone from participating in habitat restoration programs because that is what the current bill effectively does with the added cost to the counties and landowners, additional hoops to jump through and diminished payments. I personally feel that habitat restoration projects are a great use of marginal farm lands and that they are beneficial to the land and all of society in general.
3. I would hope that each of you in the legislative branch of government would ask yourselves with each bill that crosses your desk if this is necessary and an appropriate use of the government's power. I am sure that each of you has heard the concern expressed about government getting too big, powerful, and intrusive in the peoples' lives. This bill would add another layer of government bureaucracy while reducing landowners' property rights.
4. If you still feel that the bill should go forward may I suggest that you include grass seed, wheat and corn in the restriction of 5% of market value that they can receive? I'm sure that that doesn't sound fair when it is pointed at them.

Thank you for taking the time to read this paper.

Respectfully,

Garry Jebousek



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