TLMA ALERT: SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR HB 3198

TLMA is supporting Rep. Drew Darby's <u>HB 3198</u>, a bill that aims to stop county tax appraisals from punishing Texas open-space landowners who see portions of their property used for oil-and-gas production.

HB 3198 provides that if an agricultural, timber, or wildlife exemption is removed because of oil-and-gas activity, the landowner cannot be subjected to rollback taxes.

Lately, county tax appraisers are looking at lands with ag, timber, or wildlife exemptions and removing the exemption from any acreage they decide is used for oil-and-gas operations.

The appraisal district then hits the landowner with rollback taxes for the difference in
what was paid versus what the landowner would have paid without the exemption for
the previous 5 years, plus 7% interest.

Five years of rollback taxes can create a huge financial burden for Texas families trying to make a living off their land. It proves particularly unjust for landowners who only own their surface, not the minerals. They cannot control and do not benefit from the oil-and-gas production on their land, but they are suddenly handed a massive tax bill with a lien on their property until they can pay it off.

HB 3198 prevents the imposition of this five-year rollback tax penalty if a portion of your ag, timber, or wildlife land loses its tax exemption due to oil-and-gas activities.

HB 3198 will have a hearing this week before the Texas House Ways & Means Committee. Call or write to committee members to tell them you support HB 3198 and relief for Texas landowners!

House Ways & Means Committee:

Chair: <u>Dennis Bonnen</u> - (512) 463-0564 - <u>dennis.bonnen@house.texas.gov</u> Vice Chair: <u>Yvonne Davis</u> - (512) 463-0598 - <u>yvonne.davis@house.texas.gov</u> <u>Dwayne Bohac</u> - (512) 463-0727 - <u>dwayne.bohac@house.texas.gov</u> <u>Drew Darby</u> - (512) 463-0331 - <u>drew.darby@house.texas.gov</u> <u>Eric Johnson</u> - (512) 463-0586 - <u>eric.johnson@house.texas.gov</u> Jim Murphy - (512) 463-0514 - jim.murphy@house.texas.gov <u>Andrew S. Murr</u> - (512) 463-0536 - <u>andrew.murr@house.texas.gov</u> <u>Richard Peña Raymond</u> - (512) 463-0558 - <u>richard.raymond@house.texas.gov</u> <u>Hugh Shine</u> - (512) 463-0630 - <u>hugh.shine@house.texas.gov</u> <u>Drew Springer</u> - (512) 463-0526 - <u>drew.springer@house.texas.gov</u>

If you would like more information about this or other matters being pursued by TLMA, contact the TLMA office at (512) 479-5000 or write to Texas Land & Mineral Owners Association, 1005 Congress Avenue, Suite 360, Austin, TX 78701. You may also visit us on-line at <u>www.tlma.org</u>.

The TLMA website provides a central location for you to find news and updates, lists of bills, links to legislative pages, and a list of ALERTS after they have been sent out to keep you up to date during the legislative session. Check the 2017 Legislative Session page under the News & Resources tab. You can also follow what is happening with our eminent domain reform efforts through the coalition of landowner groups Texans for Property Rights at www.texansforpropertyrights.com.

Sign in to the TLMA website to access members-only resources like the <u>Discussion Forum</u>, and, when you have a moment, complete our <u>survey</u> to help TLMA better serve our members.

Texas Land & Mineral Owners Association 1005 Congress Avenue, Suite 360 Austin, TX 78701 (512) 479-5000 www.tlma.org Follow TLMA on Twitter!