

To: House Agricultural Committee,

We do not need more options for dwellings on EFU or RR lands. There are currently enough options including additional dwellings for farm help and hardship dwellings. The more farmland is cluttered with dwellings of folks who are not practicing agriculture the more difficult it becomes to farm successfully. More dwellings mean more people and a greater strain on rural infrastructure in many ways. Water is in short supply in many places and drilling more wells (often necessary in rural areas) only stresses the water supply for longtime farming residents. Agriculture (and forestry) are so important to our economy and survival and should be incentivized in every possible way. Folks who are not stewarding the land and our natural resources should live in the urban areas which we need to make as pleasant and livable as possible. A corollary to this is protecting our public lands for the enjoyment of urban dwellers.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue and rejection (hopefully) of the bills. Future generations will thank you for strengthening, not diluting our land use laws.

Sincerely,
Sarah Deumling