

Submitter: Marylynn Varner
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB3214

Good morning,

I am writing in opposition of HB3214. This testimony is to tell you why. I'm a mother of 2 children who show livestock on the 4H/FFA and more competitive level. We've shown a variety of species but mainly show sheep and pigs. The life lessons my children have learned is invaluable. My oldest is a senior this year, and she plans to become a large animal vet due to her involvement in 4H. The hands on experience she gained from birthing, to vetting, to feeding and training and yes- to the end when it comes to butchering. I know most people instantly become opposed to anything livestock or 4H related when you hear the term butcher, but the children involved in the 4H world are no way, shape or form forced to sell a butcher animal at the end of the season. Plenty of kids show breeding or showmanship projects and never sell an animal. 4H has given my children an outlet, it's created passions, it's created future endeavors. It's created good Stuart's of our community by encouraging community service. It's created realistic expectations that all animals have a life cycle. And it's created healthy competition. The world of agriculture is dying. Why give it another detrimental hit by eliminating one of the biggest recruitment abilities. Creating healthy, monitored projects. I've watched countless kids go onto college with the money they've earned from 4H/FFA market sales, they've gone into trade schools, they've gotten jobs in the agriculture world. They've been able to do it debt free because of it. As a mom of two kids passionate about the livestock world, women in agriculture and more please don't take this away.