

**TLMA ALERT: SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR HB 3198**

**TLMA is supporting Rep. Drew Darby's [HB 3198](#), 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.**

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**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.

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**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!**

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[House Ways & Means Committee:](#)

Chair: [Dennis Bonnen](#) - (512) 463-0564 - [dennis.bonnen@house.texas.gov](mailto:dennis.bonnen@house.texas.gov)

Vice Chair: [Yvonne Davis](#) - (512) 463-0598 - [yvonne.davis@house.texas.gov](mailto:yvonne.davis@house.texas.gov)

[Dwayne Bohac](#) - (512) 463-0727 - [dwayne.bohac@house.texas.gov](mailto:dwayne.bohac@house.texas.gov)

[Drew Darby](#) - (512) 463-0331 - [drew.darby@house.texas.gov](mailto:drew.darby@house.texas.gov)

[Eric Johnson](#) - (512) 463-0586 - [eric.johnson@house.texas.gov](mailto:eric.johnson@house.texas.gov)

[Jim Murphy](#) - (512) 463-0514 - [jim.murphy@house.texas.gov](mailto:jim.murphy@house.texas.gov)

[Andrew S. Murr](#) - (512) 463-0536 - [andrew.murr@house.texas.gov](mailto:andrew.murr@house.texas.gov)

[Richard Peña Raymond](#) - (512) 463-0558 - [richard.raymond@house.texas.gov](mailto:richard.raymond@house.texas.gov)

[Hugh Shine](#) - (512) 463-0630 - [hugh.shine@house.texas.gov](mailto:hugh.shine@house.texas.gov)

[Drew Springer](#) - (512) 463-0526 - [drew.springer@house.texas.gov](mailto:drew.springer@house.texas.gov)

[Phil Stephenson](#) - (512) 463-0604 - [phil.stephenson@house.texas.gov](mailto:phil.stephenson@house.texas.gov)

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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 [www.tlma.org](http://www.tlma.org).

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](http://www.texansforpropertyrights.com).

Sign in to the TLMA website to access members-only resources like the [Discussion Forum](#), and, when you have a moment, complete our [survey](#) to help TLMA better serve our members.

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Texas Land & Mineral Owners Association  
1005 Congress Avenue, Suite 360  
Austin, TX 78701  
(512) 479-5000  
[www.tlma.org](http://www.tlma.org)  
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