

HB 2424

“Establishing a pump installation contractor license and requiring additional examination, qualification and record-keeping requirements for licensed pump installation contractor and water well contractors.”

I am totally opposed to requiring a separate license and continuing education for pump installation. This just tacks on more cost to the people in the water business in lost time and dollars. More government rules and regs destined to further destroy capitalism.

This isn't a growing business. We seem to be losing our drillers and pump contractors. Especially in more rural areas. I did this for years. The required continuing education I had to go to was absolutely worthless. This job has to be learned through existing contractors and most importantly on the job. The most I ever learned with continuing education was about how to record required information for the government. That is what I see in this license requirement – more bureaucratic record keeping requirements addressing no real problem. Just adds more cost to these companies which increases the cost to the customer!

Is the objective of HB 2424 to rule and regulate these businesses out of existence so that larger corporate America water companies can take this business over too? Similar to what the revisions to the RHID program would have accomplished in our area. This business is not growing. This business is very costly to enter. Very similar to Farming and Ranching. The equipment costs are so high and I am sure inflation has not helped the industry out.

Where I come from, we used to have 3 companies working on water wells. Now there is only 1. I was on call 24/7. How many people today are willing to do that? And now the state is going to require more continuing education and additional licensing fees and requirements.

As Trump stated before, if you want another rule or regulation that you feel is so needed, find 3 or 4 rules and regs to do away with. We have enough rules and regulations robbing us of taxpayer \$\$\$\$. More rules and regs only grows the government. This will only add additional cost at the state level and I see no need for it.

In Nebraska, the conventions we had to attend to earn the continuing education requirements were very costly in not only \$\$\$, but in the time to attend. In Nebraska there was a 3 day convention for credit hours. 3 days in a hotel and 3 days not working to make a living.this cost just ends up getting passed onto the customer. Your taxpayer! Anything that was taught, could have been sent out in a newsletter.

I am really not sure what this committee is trying to accomplish with this.

One thing that really angers me about this bill. **Why aren't those in the water business aware of this bill? I talked to a driller I know. He has no idea this was happening. Then I called another and they didn't know.**

Only one mentioned that it might keep unqualified people from working on wells. Many rural people know how to work on their own water wells. These people use that water, they aren't going to jeopardize their water well.

This is how capitalism works. If a customer is not happy with a company's work, they will not buy services from that business. If this "bad service" continues, pretty soon this business is "out of business". We who support capitalism don't want the government to be the "judge" in determining who should be in business.

I just think that this committee needs to do a little more research to see if this is really, absolutely necessary before having a hearing on this bill.

Why is this bill being pushed? Those in this committee mabe need to actually go out into the country and watch well drillers and pump installers work. Maybe on a cold, blustery day, to be aware of what this industry does. I am not trying to demean anyone, I just think that there needs to be a better understanding as to what it takes to do this job.

Again, as a taxpayer, I see this as another way to rule and regulate these small businesses out of business. We will end up with only a few water companies able to do any work on a water well. Is that what you or we as taxpayers want?

We will only end up with higher costs. Look at the cost of water in cities today.

Government rules and regs are pushing taxpayer costs higher and higher. Do we really want more rules and regs that help support the million dollar water companies controlling what happens with major city water systems? The taxpayer again gets to cover the cost of all of this.

It is time to "cut government" not add to it. The taxpayer is broke.

I will try to attend the meeting Thursday.

Thank you for reading,

Desree Pettera

