

Dakota Soda

From: Jeff and Theresa Gray <grayhorse_ranch@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 14, 2020 6:53 AM
To: Rep. Julie Alexander (District 64)
Cc: Dakota Soda
Subject: HB 5239

I am writing in order to voice my strong opposition to HB 5239! This bill is an absolutely ludicrous attempt to extort extra tax dollars from horse owners in the state. The only "promotion" is for the benefit of the self serving individuals who are attempting to railroad this bill through the legislature!

If you would please take the time to study this bill's history, there was a massive public outcry with the previous version of this bill, which died in Committee. The same ambiguous bill has been presented yet again.

Per the bill:

"2 (2) Upon the submission of a written petition to terminate the commission signed by 2,500 of the equine owners directly affected by the activities of the commission, as determined by the commission, during the previous calendar year, the director, not more than 100 days after the date on which the petition is submitted shall conduct a referendum to determine if the commission shall be terminated. If more than 50% of the equine owners directly affected by the activities of the commission, as determined by the commission, that pay more than 50% of the assessments due under this act vote in favor of the commission's termination, the commission shall be terminated."

I can get you a petition signed by that many equestrians to lobby for the abolishment of this proposal prior to passage!

We currently have a Michigan Horse Council, a non-profit entity that was formed under the premise that it would "promote and protect the equine industry"
Michigan Horse Council



Michigan Horse Council

Promoting and Protecting the Horse Industry Since 1973

Request a copy of their financials... Do your due diligence. The last publicly available 941 form is from 2017.

<https://www.guidestar.org/profile/38-2571230>

Their total lack of transparency has created a massive distrust within the equine community, due to the fact that they do very little for the Equestrian Community as a whole.

Thank you for your consideration, and I urge you to reconsider your vote regarding passage of this extremely vague bill.

Sincerely,

Theresa Gray

CEO - Grayhorse Ranch

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad