

## **Letter to the Knox County Planning Commission**

To the Knox County Planning Commission,

My name is Trey Boe. I'm a third-generation veteran, and my family has stood with honor for the freedoms this country is built on-including the right to own and use land without undue interference. I do not live near the kennel property in question, and I have no personal stake in the outcome. But as an American who cares deeply about liberty, rural heritage, and fairness, I felt compelled to speak up.

From what I've reviewed, Mr. Cottle's property has been unrestricted agricultural land long before the Forest Mills subdivision was developed. That distinction matters. When people choose to live near a working ranch, they do so with the understanding that country living comes with certain sounds, sights, and ways of life.

I understand that the concerns raised by neighbors are sincere-and I respect the role this Commission plays in navigating competing interests. But I believe the foundation of good governance is protecting long-standing rights, not moving the goalposts because the landscape around them changes.

Mr. Cottle's efforts to comply with the county, plant sound buffers, and work with his neighbors show a willingness to be a good steward-not just of his land, but of the community. That kind of proactive approach should be encouraged, not penalized.

This country was built on individual rights, personal responsibility, and respect for the land. As you

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weigh your decision, I hope you'll consider what it means-for this rancher, and for others like him across the state-if legacy land use can be chipped away one complaint at a time.

Thank you for your time, your service to the community, and your consideration of all voices in this matter.

Trey Boe

I didn't write this letter lightly. I've followed Mr. Cottle's story-from his service to his innovation and now his stewardship of the land. What's happening here isn't just about one kennel-it's about the integrity of our founding rights and the quiet order Scripture calls us to live by. The Constitution guarantees that "no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law." And Proverbs 12:10 reminds us: "The righteous care for the needs of their animals." These aren't just ideals-they're anchors. When we start bending them under pressure, we risk losing what makes this country great.