

To The Judicial Committee-

I am glad I'm able to talk to you today. My family is in favor of HB911 going into law because we have been dealing with a neighbor who has had video surveillance on our property now for over a year with multiple cameras. After talking to police, and a lawyer we found that we have no recourse against this intrusion until he does something that may harm one of us.

Our neighbor built a house on the property that backs our small barn where our two minor age daughters house their 4-H animals. Shortly after he moved in, he placed 3 cameras in a line of trees about 5 feet off our property line facing our property and pointing directly and deliberately towards our barn. He is able to view the cameras and see our children at the barn as well as possibly audio. One camera we know has motion detection because we see a blue light flash on when we pass by within range. It was obvious these cameras were placed for the sole reason of surveilling us.

We confronted our neighbor about the cameras but he did not give us any assurance that they would be coming down. My husband and I decided our best course of action was to block the view of the cameras with plywood and screen material. Our neighbor responded by moving the cameras to see around our blockade forcing us to add more screening. We felt like he was harassing us and our children, yet there was nothing we could do. Now we no longer send our children to the barn with their animals after dark and we watch them closely during the day.

In talking with others about issue, we found that we are not alone in dealing with similar situations. These people also found they have no legal recourse. We understand that almost everyone has security cameras these days and sometimes they may see a piece of a neighbor's property. There is a clear difference between that and using the cameras for intentional surveillance against a neighbor. This is someone's private property not a city street, what right does an individual have to watch over another individual just because they want to. Because this bill is connected to a peace order. So, these situations would be dealt with on a case-by-case basis for a judge to decide. Our story and the several we have heard about is why HB911 needs to be placed into law.

Sincerely-

Hannah Leatherman