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**Testimony Before the Senate Bill 0878**  
Hearing on the Benefits of Oil and Gas Development

Thank You for the opportunity to testify today on the importance of oil and gas development. As a landowner, I am honored to share my perspective on how responsible energy production benefits communities, landowners, and the broader economy.

**Introduction**

My name is Taylor Sines, and I am a landowner in Garrett County. I have firsthand experience in working with oil and gas companies and have seen the positive economic and environmental benefits of responsible resource development. My testimony today will focus on how oil and gas production support local economies, provide job opportunities, and ensures energy security while allowing landowners to maximize the potential of their properties.

**Background and Current Challenges**

Oil and gas development has been a cornerstone of economic growth in many rural areas. Through responsible drilling practices, landowners like me have been able to generate revenue that supports our families and local businesses. However, increasing regulatory hurdles and misinformation about the industry threaten these benefits and jeopardize the livelihoods of countless landowners and workers.

**Impact on Stakeholders**

Landowners who lease their properties for energy development benefit from additional income streams, which enable them to invest in their land, support local businesses, and contribute to their communities. Moreover, oil and gas production creates high-paying jobs and generates tax revenues that fund essential services such as education and infrastructure improvements.

**Policy Recommendations**

1. **Support for Domestic Energy Production** – Encourage policies that promote responsible oil and gas development to enhance energy independence and economic growth.
2. **Streamlining Regulations** – Reduce unnecessary bureaucratic barriers that delay or obstruct resource development, allowing landowners to fully utilize their property rights.
3. **Investment in Infrastructure** – Ensure continued investment in pipelines and transportation networks to safely and efficiently deliver energy to markets.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, oil and gas development is vital to landowners, local economies, and national energy security. I urge the Committee to support policies that encourage responsible energy production and protect the rights of landowners. I appreciate your time and attention to this important issue and welcome any questions you may have.

Thank you.

*Taylor Sines Jr*