

June 21, 2017

Senator Bill Cassidy, M.D.
Attn: Blake Schindler
520 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Letter of Support for Senate Bill 1219, 2017-2018 Congress, "To provide for stability of title to certain land in the State of Louisiana, and for other purposes"

Dear Senator Cassidy:

Our family submits this letter in support S. 1219 so that the effect of a Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") re-survey within Section 30, Township 16 North, Range 10 West, Bossier Parish, Louisiana does not divest our family of title to our land.

Our family purchased our land, minerals and home in the subject section over 13 years ago after retiring. We have lived in our home on the land ever since. There were no contrary claims or clouds on the title to the property when we purchased it, therefore we were disturbed to discover that the government felt it had a claim to our title.

Just a few years ago, we had this property listed for sale. Once the suggested claim was made by the BLM in their 2013 letter, a potential contract on the property fell through. The title company had concerns about what the BLM stated in their 2013 letter. Therefore, the BLM's tepid assertion of a claim had the effect of clouding the title to our property.

It is our hope that S. 1219 can resolve the effects which the BLM's re-survey has on this section's title especially because we are not the only family living in the affected resurvey area. In fact, there is a neighborhood just up the road where a number of land and home owners would also be divested of title to all or part of their lands if the BLM was permitted to claim this property. Beyond the BLM's letter response in 2013, there does not appear to be any other notice provided by the BLM which would put the affected land and home owners in the area on notice of the BLM's claim. It does not seem right to allow the government to claim the lands when there was no prior communication by the BLM and no notice of their claim for an individual (or their title insurer) to consider when purchasing property. If the re-survey were allowed to stand, it could tie up the property of every affected owner who would essentially be prevented from selling their land due to the claim's effect on their title.

We support S. 1219 in order to protect our family's ownership of the property at issue, and to ensure we are not subject to further contrary claims of ownership by the federal government.

Sincerely,


Mr. Dozier Pitt Vogel and Mrs. Theresa A. Vogel

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