

2023 Special Interim Newsletter

June 30th

SENATOR ROD PELTON

The Joint Chamber Eastern Plains Tour, which I helped plan with my fellow Eastern Plains colleagues, was a success. We had a total of 15 State Senators and Representatives (11 of whom represent urban/metropolitan districts) participate in either one or both days of this event and we traveled almost 750 miles from start to finish. The focus of this trip was to help bridge the gap between our rural, food producing communities and metro-area communities. Instead of just talking the talk, I was able to help show my fellow state legislators our rural way of life and educate them on the topics of agriculture, water, and energy.

Day One of this event focused on the northern part of the Eastern Plains and included: a water presentation on the Lower South Platte River by Jim Yahn, a tour of the Colorado Lamb Processors' Facility in Brush, a visit to Magnum Feedyard in Wiggins, a tour of Kraft's Quail Ridge Dairy in Fort Morgan, a tour at Western Sugar Co-Op in Fort Morgan, and a dinner and wheat production talk at Beedy's Farm and Ranch in Genoa.

Pictured Top Left: Learning about the Lamb Industry

Pictured Bottom Left: Touring Western Sugar Co-Op



Pictured Top Right: Learning about Kraft's methane digester

Pictured Bottom Right: Dinner at Beedy's Farm & Ranch as we listened to farmers tell us about their livelihood



Day Two of this event focused on the central and southern part of the Eastern Plains, which is all a part of Senate District 35! The tour stops and discussions included: a water presentation on the Lower Arkansas Valley by Jack Goble, a stop at Knapp's Farm Market to talk with fruit & vegetable growers, a tour of Allen Family's Broken Spear Ranch and lunch with members of the Southern Colorado Livestock Association in Model, and a tour of Evergreen Natural Resources, LLC in Trinidad.



Pictured from left to right: (1) Members listening to Alisha Knapp as she explains her family's production; (2) Members talking with SCLA members about their livestock practices; and (3) Out in the field at Evergreen Natural Resources, LLC in Trinidad where members learned about green coalbed methane capturing.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me. While the 2023 session may have adjourned, I always appreciate hearing from my constituents throughout the interim.

Faithfully,

Senator Rod Pelton



Serving Baca, Bent, Cheyenne, Crowley, El Paso, Elbert, Huerfano, Kit Carson, Kiowa, Las Animas, Lincoln, Otero, and Prowers Counties

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