



**THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION
FREE STATE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE**

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Date:	07 August 2018
To:	Ms SH Ntombela (MPL) The Premier of the Free State
From:	Dr Roy Jankielsohn (MPL) The Leader of the Official Opposition
Subject:	Illegal land invasions in the Free State

Dear Premier,

In the past five days the Free State province has experienced two serious incidents of illegal occupation of farmland adjacent to Monyakeng at Wesselsbron and Meloding at Virginia. This was accompanied by arson at Meloding.

While we are aware of the emotions and expectations that are being created within the framework of the current national political debates taking place around expropriation without compensation and the need for urban land for housing and commonages, it remains important that the rule of law is not undermined or compromised.

In both recent instances of illegal occupation of land the SAPS have taken action and it is important that they continue to act immediately and decisively in such instances. Swift action from the SAPS which will deter individuals from the temptation to take the law into their own hands.

A further concern are allegations that there has been political incitement within communities to carry out these illegal activities by individuals, one of whom is alleged to be a councillor. The logical expectation is that the SAPS should also act against such individuals for incitement to commit such crimes.

Speaking on behalf of the provincial government, the former Premier Mr Ace Magashule indicated in the Free State Legislature that "there will be no land grabs" in the province. In this respect we would value a similar commitment from you, as the new Premier.

Your positive response in this regard would be appreciated.

Thank you,

Roy Jankielsohn
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