

OPPOSE SENATE BILL 841

Members of the Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee

Alan Eck, Maryland Chicken Farmer

- On Maryland chicken farms all chicken manure is stored inside until time for field application.
- Having manure inside prevents manure from becoming a pollutant.
- Manure is applied only to fields that need manure, based on soil tests and the crop to be grown.
- There is currently a shortage of poultry manure in the state of Maryland, poultry manure is an organic fertilizer used for all types of grain, oriental, and food crops.
- Poultry barns are like any other building as in needed maintenance and upkeep, as the barns age they will eventually need replacing with more energy efficient barns.
- Due to pass laws enacted in this state we now produce less chickens per barn than in the past, thus requiring more barns to produce the same amount of chickens.
- Other laws passed in this state has also increased the costs of building, owning, and operating our barns; requiring us to have to build more barns in order to support our family's.
- By not allowing more or the expansion of family chicken farms you are not only affecting the hard working farmer you are also affecting the grain farmer, people employed by the ag industry, and their entire community, and local businesses.
- Chicken farms contribute greatly to the Maryland economy, creating great amazing communities full of wonderful people who know and understand the importance of the Maryland chicken community.
- Maryland farmers are proud to produce local food, at an affordable price, in and environmentally friendly, and sustainable matter.