



Maryland Grain Producers Association  
118 Dundee Ave, Chester, MD 21619  
Lindsay.mdag@gmail.com (p) 443-262-8491  
www.marylandgrain.com

Date: February 28, 2024

House Bill 516 - Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act of 2024

Committee: Economic Matters

MGPA Position: Opposed

The Maryland Grain Producers Association (MGPA) serves as the voice of grain farmers growing corn, wheat, barley and sorghum across the state. MGPA opposes House Bill 516 which would levy a fee of \$75 per ton of carbon dioxide equivalent for non-transportation fossil fuels and \$52 per ton for transportation fuels.

Technology has not advanced to the point where electric tractors, trucks and heavy equipment are available as alternatives to the fossil fuel powered equipment. This equipment is used to prepare the fields, plant, fertilize, treat and harvest the crops. Then, trucks are used to haul the grain for delivery to the grain elevators or to ports for export. Additionally, buildings and bins for grain storage, drying and handling are still often powered with fossil fuel generators as the electricity requirements are immense.

While the bill states that the fee cannot be passed through to the end user, we are concerned that fuel costs will increase as a result of this legislation impacting supply and availability in Maryland.

MGPA urges an unfavorable report on HB516.

Thank you,

Lindsay Thompson

Executive Director