

JASON C. GALLION
Legislative District 35
Harford and Cecil Counties

Education, Health, and
Environmental Affairs Committee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Annapolis Office
James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 414
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3603 · 301-858-3603
800-492-7122 Ext. 3603
Fax 410-841-3115 · 301-858-3115
Jason.Gallion@senate.state.md.us

District Office
64 S. Main Street
Port Deposit, Maryland 21904

February 11th, 2020

The Honorable Paul Pinsky, Chair and Members

Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

Re: Senate Bill SB 351 – Agriculture – Farmers Markets – Advertising, Labeling, and Enforcement
(Farmers Market Integrity Act)

Position: Support

Chairman Pinsky and EHEA Committee Members:

SB 351 seeks to set qualifications and requirements for what venues can be considered farmers markets. The end goal of this legislation is not to place burdens on local producers trying to sell their products but to prevent big corporations from coming in and opening grocery stores and labeling themselves as farmers markets.

This is an important issue for farmers that needs a solution; either through legislation or other means working with MDA. Consumers should be well informed and our local producers should be able to sell their products without the threat of chain grocery stores putting them out of business.

Thank you for your consideration regarding this proposed legislation.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason Gallion".

Senator Jason Gallion