



PINEY BRANCH
G O L F C L U B

5301 TRENTON MILL ROAD
UPPERCO, MARYLAND 21155

410.239.7114 (OFFICE) / 410.239.7105 (FAX)
WWW.PINEYBRANCHGOLF.COM

February 6, 2020

Education, Health and Environment Affairs Committee

Maryland State Senate

Reference: Senate Bill 300

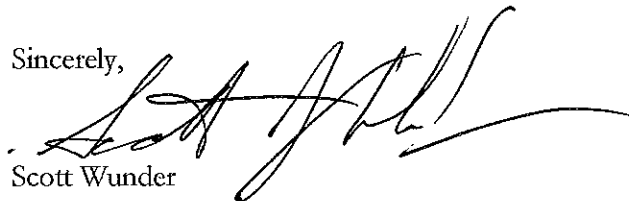
Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee,

In response to Bill 300, banning the use of chlorpyrifos, I strongly recommend that this bill be removed. I have been a Class A superintendent for the last thirteen years at a private golf club in Upperco, Maryland and I find the use of chlorpyrifos to be vital in the control of many insect pests on our golf course when used responsibly. Of the many pests that we are charged to control on the course, one particular, the Annual Bluegrass Weevil (*Hyperodes Weevil*) is the hardest for us to control. Currently and in the recent past we have had great success in controlling this pest with the combination of aggressive scouting and key planned spray applications. Currently we only have a handful of products at our disposal that will control this pest, chlorpyrifos being one. The other key products that control this pest are pyrethroids such as Scimitar and Bifenthrin.

The key to maintaining good control of this pest is having the ability to rotate different chemical classes which helps us to reduce the pests' ability to become immune to one particular pesticide. By rotating chlorpyrifos, an organophosphate and products like bifenthrin, a pyrethroid, we protect the future need to make additional applications. Point being, if we lose chlorpyrifos as a tool in our programs we run the risk of developing resistance to other insecticides and in turn, we would need to make far more applications per year to maintain a greater level of control.

Speaking for many golf course superintendents in our region, with good scouting and IPM strategies we can responsibly and accurately apply chlorpyrifos to select areas on our properties to limit any impacts this product may have on the environment. This particular chemical is already regulated by the EPA and there is no need to further regulate on the state level. In conjunction with that, the general public is not allowed to purchase or apply this product and only licensed professionals can do so. My hope is that this Bill 300 will be removed.

Sincerely,



Scott Wunder

General Manager and Golf Course Superintendent

410-239-7114