



January 14, 2021

The Honorable Paul Pinsky, Chairman
Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

Re: Senate Bill 352 - Agriculture – Multiflora Rose Management – Repeal

Position: *Support*

Chairman Pinsky & Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts to express our *support* for Senate Bill 352, Agriculture – Multiflora Rose Management – Repeal. This bill would repeal the Multiflora Rose management provision.

Current law declares multiflora rose to be a public and common nuisance on land used for agricultural production and requires a person who owns land where multiflora rose is grown to maintain the land in accordance with the management techniques prescribed by the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA). The Secretary of Agriculture has the authority to investigate and initiate compliance toward any farmer who does not meet the prescribed management practice. MDA has advised that the State's agricultural industry has multiflora rose contained and under control, making the current statutes unnecessary.

I respectfully request a *favorable* report of Senate Bill 352, which shows your dedicated support to the entire agricultural community. Thank you for your kind consideration and attention to this legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Nelson, Executive Director
Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts