



# Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

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February 23, 2021

To: Senate Finance Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

## **Re: Support of SB 549 - Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Thermal Biomass Systems**

On behalf of our member families, I submit this written testimony in support with amendment of SB 549, legislation that authorizes thermal biomass systems, for purposes of the State's Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS), to use food waste, qualifying biomass, or animal manure as a source of fuel, regardless of the relative mix of those fuel sources. Other eligibility requirements related to thermal biomass systems and their fuel components are unchanged. Maryland Farm Bureau supports the clarifying amendments being offered by the Maryland Forests Association to include Silvicultural products and natural wood waste.

**MDFB Policy:** We support energy generation from all agricultural residues and biproducts to be considered value-added production on a farm.

We support initiatives to generate heat & electricity from timber resources.

**MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS SB 549 WITH AMENDMENT.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colby Ferguson'.

Colby Ferguson  
Director of Government Relations

*For more information contact Colby Ferguson at (240) 578-0396*