



Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

3358 Davidsonville Road • Davidsonville, MD 21035 • (410) 922-3426

March 10, 2021

To: House Health & Government Operations Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: **Opposition of HB1078 - Attorney General - Climate Change Actions - Authorization**

On behalf of our member families, I submit this written testimony opposing HB 1078. This bill authorizes the Attorney General to investigate, commence, and prosecute or defend any civil or criminal suit or action that holds accountable businesses whose tortious or otherwise unlawful conduct has contributed to climate change through fraud, deception, or any other mechanism, action, inaction, or practice. The bill also authorizes the Attorney General to hire outside counsel on a contingency fee basis to assist if the Attorney General determines that hiring outside counsel is in the State's best interest.

This bill is extremely broad and would open farms to potential lawsuits if the Attorney General determines a farming practice, action or inaction contributes to Climate Change.

MDFB Policy: We urge keeping all federally labeled crop protection products legal in the state, counties, and municipalities. Furthermore, we believe the use of pesticides should be regulated by available facts, not on emotional issues.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU RESPECTFULLY OPPOSES HB 1078

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