March 2, 2023

Maryland Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen St. Annapolis, Maryland 21401



Dear members of the Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee:

We are Maryland family farmers writing in strong support of SB690, which will provide more humane eggs for Marylanders. This measure would provide spatial standards for egg-laying hens in our state, which give the birds enough room to move and express natural behaviors. It would also ensure that eggs sold in our state come from facilities that are held to these same standards. On some industrial production facilities, egg-laying hens are confined in cages so small they're rendered virtually immobile for their whole lives. This confinement can undercut responsible family farmers who use more humane means of raising animals. Moreover, workers at these corporate facilities often report that witnessing such cruel conditions takes an emotional toll on them.

SB690 is a commonsense bill that's in line with how animals ought to be treated. We are concerned about animal welfare, the viability of family farms and the reputation of Maryland agriculture, and therefore kindly urge your support of SB690.

Sincerely,

Honey Moon Farm - Accident Diehl's Produce - Annapolis Olmo Bros Nursery & Farm - Annapolis Tanglewood Sheep and Goat Farm - Ashton Hybridoma Organic Fruit Farm - Baldwin Butterbee Farm - Baltimore Serenity Farm - Benedict Goat Plum Tree Farm - Berlin Belle Prairie Farm - Big Pool Foxhound Farm - Bishopville Provident Organic Farm - Bivalve Contentment Farm - Boonsboro Cherry Glen Farm - Boyds Windy Way Farm - Boyds Peaceful Acres Farm - Brandywine Bella Vita Farm - Brookeville DoDo Farms - Brookeville Victory Chapel Family Farms - Bryans Road Anchorage Farm - Centreville Land's End Farm - Centreville

Where Pigs Fly Farm - Centreville Redman Farms - Chestertown Oksana's Produce - Chestertown Natural Nick's Produce - Chillum Gardens The Hydrofarm Inc. - Churchville Rebecca's Garden - Columbia Rumbleway Farm - Conowingo Bob's Organic Farm - Cordova Environmental Evergreens - Darlington Chicken of the Woods Farm - Darnestown Query Mill Hill Farm - Darnestown Mt Airy U-Pick Farm - Davidsonville P&J Tree Farm - Delmar Amaranth Acres - Dickerson Monocacy Mills - Dickerson One Acre Farm - Dickerson A. H. Herb'n Craft Farm - Easton Cottingham Farm - Easton Olney Farm - Elkridge Eder Farm - Elkton

Donna Krudwig, President

AmericansForFamilyFarmers.com

## **SB690: FAVORABLE**

Stone Wall Angus - Fairplay Belvedere Farm - Fallston Three Oaks Farm - Forest Hill Harford Vineyard - Forest Hill **Ambling Brook Farm - Frederick** Sycamore Spring Farm - Frederick Oak Spring Farm - Freeland Heartwood Farm - Friendsville Two Story Chimney Ciderworks - Gaithersburg Hideaway Farm - Gambrills Prigel Family Creamery - Glen Arm Fat & Happy Farms - Grasonville Kinohi Poultry - Greensboro Third Way Farm - Havre de Grace Earth First Farm - Highland Fox Briar Farm - Hurlock Red Top Farm - Jarrettsville Castle Hill Farm - Jefferson Fox Haven Organic Farm - Jefferson Blue-Ridge Farm - Keedysville Lonesome Pine Farms - Knoxville Hancock Farm - La Plata Gorman Farm - Laurel Our Graystone Farm - Laytonsville Part Green Hill Farm - Leonardtown R & H Farms - Lexington Park Berry Daze Farm - Lothian **Buppert's Farm - Marriottsville** Scarborough Farm - Mechanicsville Chocolates and Tomatoes Farm - Middletown Harley Farm - Middletown Millersville Hens - Millersville Karma Farm - Monkton Maryland Microgreens - Monrovia Elk Run Winery - Mount Airy FrogHollow Homestead - Myersville Lovell Grass Fed Co. - New Windsor Shepherds Manor Creamery - New Windsor

Next Step Produce - Newburg Haley Farm - Oakland The Farm at Glen Mary - Park Hall Grandma's Farm - Pleasant Valley Leafcutter Farm - Point of Rocks Grateful Gardeners - Poolesville Plow and Stars Farm - Poolesville Scrivener's Farm - Prince Frederick Brightman Farm - Princess Anne Crooked Creek Farm - Pylesville Piece of Heaven Farm - Reisterstown Farm To Fork Farm - Ridgely Brewers Hideaway Farm - Rising Sun Windy Ridge Acres - Rocky Ridge Maple Vale Farm - Rohrersville growingSOUL - Sandy Spring Willow Oak Flower & Herb Farm - Severn Springfield Farm - Sparks Carriage House Farms - Stevenson **Prosperity Acres - Sunderland** Ritter Farm - Sykesville Crossroads Multi-Farm CSA - Takoma Park **Ridgeton Farms - Taylors Island** Utica Bridge Farms - Thurmont **Gingersnap Farm - Trappe** Flying Pigs Farm - Union Bridge Grazy Days Family Farm - Union Bridge Deep Roots Farm - Upper Marlboro Heron There Farm - Upper Marlboro Owl's Nest Farm - Upper Marlboro Chestnut Creek Farm - Westminster Faithful Friends Farm - Westminster Lucky Lane Farm - White Hall Star Bright Farm - White Hall Stewart Farms - Woodbine Breezy Willow Farm - Woodbine Withers Wool - Woodbine Moon Valley Farm - Woodsboro

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