



WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Julie M. Giordano
County Executive

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Director of Administration

February 23, 2023

The Honorable Senator Brian J. Feldman
Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
2 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: SB 690 Agriculture-Confinement of Egg-Laying Hens in Commercial Egg Production

Dear Senator Feldman:

We are writing this letter for an unfavorable vote for SB690 that will be heard by the Committee March 7, 2023.

As County Executive of Wicomico County, I am concerned for the burdensome regulation this would put on the farmers who are in the business of egg production. Our agriculture community is a staple in our way of life. Both economically and culturally, the working farmers are the unsung heroes. Ensuring everyday our citizens are being fed and nourished, in addition the poultry industry which is an economic engine here. In a recent report the price of eggs has surged by 70% the national average retail price of a dozen eggs has increased to \$4.82 in January, up nearly 60 cents from a month prior, however up from a \$1.92 a year ago.

It seems this would add to the burdens that our famers in the state and our region are struggling with at this time.

For this reason, I respectfully ask the committee for an unfavorable report of SB690.

Respectfully,

WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Julie M. Giordano", is written over the printed name and title.

Julie M. Giordano
County Executive