

February 12, 2024

Chair Marc Korman, Vice Chair Regina T. Boyce and Members of the
Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251
House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401



Dear Chair Marc Korman, Vice Chair Regina T. Boyce and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

We are Maryland family farmers writing in strong support of HB357, 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.

HB357 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 HB357.

Sincerely,

Honey Moon Farm, Accident

Diehl's Produce, Annapolis

Hollywood Farm, Annapolis

Olmo Bros Nursery & Farm, Annapolis

Tanglewood Sheep and Goat Farm, Ashton

Hybridoma Organic Fruit Farm, Baldwin

Butterbee Farm, Baltimore

J's Farm Market, Bel Air

Serenity Farm, Benedict

Goat Plum Tree Farm, Berlin

Belle Prairie Farm, Big Pool

Foxhound Farm, Bishopville

Contentment Farm, Boonsboro

Cherry Glen Farm, Boyds

Windy Way Farm, Boyds

Peaceful Acres Organic Free-Range 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

Reiner Farm, Cheverly

Natural Nick's Produce LLC, Chillum Gardens

The Hydrofarm Inc., Churchville

Rebecca's Garden, Columbia

Rumbleway Farm, Conowingo

HB357: FAVORABLE

Bobs Organic Farm, Cordova
Environmental Evergreens, Darlington
Chicken of the Woods Farm, Darnestown
Query Mill 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
Stone Wall Angus LLC, Fairplay
Belvedere Farm, Fallston
Harford Vineyard & Winery, Forest Hill
Three Oaks Farm, Forest Hill
Ambling Brook Farm, Frederick
Sycamore Spring Farm, Frederick
Oak Spring Farm, Freeland
Heartwood Farm, Friendsville
Two Story Chimney Ciderworks, Gaithersburg
Hideaway Farm, Gambrells
Prigel Family Creamery, Glen Arm
Fat & Happy Farms, Grasonville
Kinohi Poultry, Greensboro
The Blue Truck Homestead, Hagerstown
Third Way Farm, Havre de Grace
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
Frog Hollow Homestead, Myersville
Shepherds Manor Creamery, New Windsor
Haley Farm, Oakland
The Farm at Glen Mary, Park Hall
Grandma's Farm, Pleasant Valley
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 Fresh 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

HB357: FAVORABLE

Fiddler's Green Farm, Taneytown

Ridgeton Farms, Taylors Island

Utica Bridge Farms, LLC, 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

Breezy Willow Farm, Woodbine

Heron's Meadow Farm, Woodbine

Stewart Farms, Woodbine

Withers Wool, Woodbine

Moon Valley Farm, Woodsboro