



## Maryland Farm Bureau

3358 Davidsonville Road | Davidsonville, MD 21035  
410-922-3426 | [www.mdfarmbureau.com](http://www.mdfarmbureau.com)

March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**To:** House Health and Government Operations Committee

**From:** Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

**RE:** **Opposition to HB1190 Pesticides - PFAS Chemicals – Prohibitions**

On behalf of the member families of the Maryland Farm Bureau, I submit this written testimony in opposition to HB1190. This bill prohibits, beginning June 1, 2025, a person from selling a pesticide that has PFAS chemicals listed as an active ingredient on the labeling accompanying the pesticide; and prohibits, beginning December 31, 2025, a person from using a pesticide that has PFAS chemicals listed as an active ingredient on the labeling.

Last year, SB158/HB319 was passed to require the Department of Agriculture to study the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in pesticides in the State. That report concludes that, “there is a lack of information concerning the contribution of PFAS in pesticide formulations to the impact of PFAS in the environment and exposure to humans.” The two recommendations from the workgroup were to follow the lead of the EPA, and to analyze formulations registered in Maryland to acquire baseline data. The EPA is currently developing a method specifically to test various pesticide formulations.

To date, the State Chemist Section has 14,029 pesticides and 555 fertilizer-pesticide mixtures registered for distribution in the state of Maryland. In Maryland “Pesticide” means (1) any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any insects, rodents, fungi, weeds, or other forms of plant or animal life or viruses, except viruses on or in living humans or other animals, which the Secretary declares to be a pest; and (2) any substance or mixture of substances intended for use as a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant.

This bill would ultimately affect 60 active ingredients and take tools out of the toolbox for Maryland Agriculture. Many of the pesticides that would be affected



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by this bill do not have a comparable alternative. This would put Maryland farmers at a competitive disadvantage as they continue to grow the food, fuel, and fiber for our state.

MDFB Policy: No PFAS or chemical contaminant regulations should be promulgated at either the state or federal level without conclusive scientific data.

### **Maryland Farm Bureau Respectfully Opposes HB1190**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tyler Hough', with a long horizontal line above it.

Tyler Hough

Director of Government Relations

*Please contact Tyler Hough, (443) 878-4045 with any questions*