



Maryland Farm Bureau

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March 6, 2025

To: Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

RE: Support – SB640 – Public Utilities - Solar Energy Generating Stations - Eminent Domain

On behalf of the nearly 8,000 member families of the Maryland Farm Bureau, I submit written testimony in support of SB640 Public Utilities - Solar Energy Generating Stations - Eminent Domain. This proposed legislation would prohibit a person constructing a solar energy generating station from exercising a right of condemnation in connection with that construction.

Maryland farmers invest significant amounts of time, resources, and effort into maintaining their land as a valuable asset and a cornerstone of the state's agricultural heritage. Condemnation proceedings that undervalue farmland not only jeopardize individual farm operations but also undermine the long-term viability of Maryland's agricultural industry. It is a concern to the members of Maryland Farm Bureau that at some point eminent domain would be used for the construction of a solar energy generating station. This legislation would give them ease of mind, that the only possibility for their land to be developed for solar power is if they make the decision to do so.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tyler Hough", written over a horizontal line.

Tyler Hough
Director of Government Relations

Please reach out to Tyler Hough, though@marylandfb.org, with any questions