Maryland Farm Bureau

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March 11, 2025

To: Senate Finance Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

RE: **Support of SB990 Consumer Protection - Agricultural Equipment Warranties**

On behalf of the nearly 8,000 member families of the Maryland Farm Bureau, we write to express our strong support for Senate Bill 990, the Agricultural Equipment Warranty Enforcement Act. This legislation aligns with our longstanding policy position: "We support the state of Maryland implementing a lemon law for agricultural equipment."

Maryland farmers rely on their equipment to maintain productive and efficient operations. When agricultural machinery fails due to manufacturer defects, it can cause significant disruptions, financial burdens, and lost productivity. Unlike other consumer goods, the stakes for farmers are high—delays in planting, harvesting, and other critical tasks directly impact livelihoods.

Senate Bill 990 establishes necessary protections for Maryland's agricultural community by ensuring that manufacturers uphold their warranty commitments. By requiring timely repairs, replacement, or refunds for defective equipment, this legislation will create fairness and accountability in agricultural equipment transactions. Additionally, it will provide farmers with the same consumer protections already available in other industries.

We appreciate the General Assembly's recognition of the challenges farmers face and urge swift passage of SB990. The Maryland Farm Bureau stands ready to support this legislation and work with policymakers to ensure its successful implementation. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to Maryland's agricultural sector.

Maryland Farm Bureau Supports SB990

Tyler Hough
Director of Government Relations
Please reach out to Tyler Hough, though@marylandfb.org, with any questions