



Maryland Farm Bureau

3358 Davidsonville Road | Davidsonville, MD 21035
410-922-3426 | www.mdfarmbureau.com

January 21, 2025

To: House Ways and Means Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

RE: Support of HB0278 Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Enhanced Agricultural Management Equipment

On behalf of the nearly 8,000 member families of the Maryland Farm Bureau, I submit written testimony in support of HB0278 Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Enhanced Agricultural Management Equipment. This proposed legislation will offer a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax to those who purchase enhanced agricultural management equipment.

HB278 recognizes the critical role of modern agricultural equipment in promoting sustainable farming practices. By expanding the list of eligible enhanced agricultural management equipment, this bill ensures that Maryland farmers can invest in innovative tools that reduce environmental impacts and increase efficiency. Specifically, the bill adds equipment that the Secretary of Agriculture determines by regulation to qualify as enhanced agricultural management equipment, further broadening the scope of support for Maryland's agricultural community.

The expanded subtraction modification under HB278 provides critical financial relief to farmers who purchase and install advanced equipment designed to minimize soil disturbance, reduce nutrient runoff, and optimize nutrient application. Examples of this equipment include no-till planters, liquid manure soil injection systems, and integrated optical sensing systems. Such tools are vital for improving soil health, protecting water quality, and promoting the long-term sustainability of Maryland's agricultural industry.

By passing HB278, the General Assembly will not only support Maryland's farmers but also advance the state's environmental goals. This legislation aligns with the Maryland Farm



Maryland Farm Bureau

3358 Davidsonville Road | Davidsonville, MD 21035
410-922-3426 | www.mdfarmbureau.com

Bureau's mission to enhance the economic well-being of agriculture and rural communities while protecting natural resources for future generations.

Maryland Farm Bureau Supports HB0278

Sincerely,

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

Tyler Hough

Director of Government Relations

Please contact Tyler Hough, though@marylandfb.org, with any questions