



## **Schmidt Farms Inc**

1010 Sudlersville Cemetery Rd  
Sudlersville, MD 21668

To: Maryland House Environment and Transportation Committee,

2 February 2026

### **RE: HB 91 – Agriculture – Neonicotinoid Pesticides Prohibitions**

On our Queen Anne’s County family farm, seed treatment technologies, including neonicotinoid insecticide treatments, are an important tool we use to give our crops a strong, healthy start. Each season, we evaluate our fields, cropping history, and pest pressure before selecting seed treatments that protect against the insects and diseases present in our soils during early growth. That early protection is critical, because a strong root system established in the first weeks of growth is the foundation for a healthy, productive plant throughout the season. For our farm, seed treatments help ensure consistent emergence and uniform stands, reducing the risk of very expensive replanting, and giving every seed the best chance to grow under real-world field conditions.

Seed treatments also allow us to farm more responsibly. By protecting the seed directly, we reduce the need for additional in-season spray applications and limit exposure to non-target species, including people and pollinators. Compared with broadcast applications, seed treatments reduce potential soil surface exposure by more than 90 percent, helping us use crop protection products only where they are needed and at the lowest effective rates.

For our family, farming is about stewardship as much as productivity. Seed treatments help us maximize yield and quality while minimizing environmental impact by using targeted, uniform, low-dose applications. This approach reduces overall chemical use and lowers the risk of resistance, allowing us to protect both our crops and the land we depend on for future generations.

Thank you for your consideration of the impact this bill will have on Maryland family farms.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Schmidt', written in a cursive style.

Jennifer H Schmidt