



Maryland Grain Producers Association
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House Bill 547 - Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Enhanced Agricultural Management Equipment

Committee: Ways & Means

MGPA Position: SUPPORT

The Maryland Grain Producers Association (MGPA) serves as the voice of grain farmers growing corn, wheat, barley and sorghum across the state. MGPA supports House Bill 547 which would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to deem certain equipment eligible for the Enhanced Agricultural Equipment income tax subtraction modification.

This income tax subtraction modification is intended to make it more financially feasible for farmers to purchase enhanced agricultural equipment utilized to implement conservation practices on their farms. These conservation practices include enhanced nutrient management, conservation tillage, precision planting and many others. Agricultural technology is constantly evolving and allowing the Secretary of Agriculture the flexibility to add equipment to the eligibility list via regulation will help to more readily keep up with these technological advances.

The cost of agricultural equipment has increased by nearly 20% since 2020 and with increased production costs and depressed commodity prices; purchasing enhanced agricultural equipment is out-of-reach for many producers. By potentially expanding the eligible equipment, farmers will be able to access this benefit for purchases that will assist the state in meeting our Chesapeake Bay clean-up goals.

MGPA urges your favorable report on House Bill 547.

Thank you,

Lindsay Thompson

Executive Director