



ST. MARY'S COUNTY FARM BUREAU
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WORKING FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE SINCE 1947

November 24, 2017

Commissioners of St. Mary's County
P. O. Box 653
Leonardtown, Maryland 20650

Dear Commissioners,

The St. Mary's County Agriculture, Seafood, and Forestry Board recently informed you that commercial fishing and seafood operations in St. Mary's County are not afforded protection from nuisance lawsuits under the Right to Farm Ordinance. Farm operations are afforded protection from nuisance lawsuits under the Right to Farm Ordinance. The Agriculture, Seafood, and Forestry Board requests that the Board of Commissioners solicit the introduction of enabling legislation by the Delegation during the 2018 legislative session to allow the county to create a Right to Conduct Commercial Fishing and Seafood Operations Ordinance.

Farm bureau supports aquaculture, commercial fishing, and seafood operations in our county and agrees that these businesses should be afforded the same protection from nuisance lawsuits as farming operations. The Board of Directors of the St. Mary's County Farm Bureau endorses the request of the Agriculture, Seafood, and Forestry Board regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

James K. Raley, Jr.
President
St. Mary's County Farm Bureau

Cc: Mr. Steven T. Reeves, Chairman, Agriculture, Seafood and Forestry Board
St. Mary's County Legislative Delegation

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