



**CALVERT COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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Board of Commissioners
Christopher J. Gadway
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January 31, 2022

The Honorable Senator Paul G. Pinsky, Chair
Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen St
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SB268/HB387 – Pesticide Regulation – Transfer to Department of the Environment

Senator Pinsky:

The Maryland Department of Agriculture is the cornerstone in the development, availability, and use of economically and environmentally sound pest management tools and practices. This includes measuring and regulating residue levels for hundreds of pesticides and their metabolites in fruits, vegetables, and grains. Proper management of pests has real economic impacts for the agricultural community, with whom the Department of Agriculture has built relationships and responds to issues specific to farmers. These are scientific measures that any properly equipped agency can perform. However, shifting oversight and regulation will result in the loss of practical knowledge of application cycles and the benefits of pesticides. These practical aspects consider the particular site or crop on which it is to be used, the amount, frequency, and timing of its use, and storage and disposal practices by farmers. For these reasons, we write in opposition to SB268/HB387.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact County Administrator Julian M. Willis at 410-535-1600 extension 2202 or County Attorney John Norris at 410-535-1600 extension 2566. Thank you for your kind consideration of our position regarding this important bill.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Handwritten signature of Earl F. Hance in blue ink.

Earl F. Hance

Handwritten signature of Steven R. Weems in blue ink.

Steven R. Weems, Vice President

Handwritten signature of Christopher J. Gadway in blue ink.

Christopher J. Gadway

Handwritten signature of Mike Hart in blue ink.

Mike Hart

Handwritten signature of Kelly D. McConkey in blue ink.

Kelly D. McConkey