



# Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

3358 Davidsonville Road • Davidsonville, MD 21035 • (410) 922-3426

March 11, 2020

To: House Economic Matters Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: **Letter of Information for HB 799 - Consumer Protection - Right to Repair Farm Equipment**

On behalf of our member families, I submit this letter of concern/information for HB 799. This bill requires that farm equipment manufacturers provide information to an independent repair provider or farmer so they can take action to repair the equipment. The bill does not prevent a user from removing air emission requirements that would allow the equipment to have more power. There is concern that without restrictions, an independent repair provider or farmer could remove technologies from the equipment that would void the warranty and possibly prevent a dealer from purchasing the tampered piece of equipment in a trade.

**Maryland Farm Bureau Policy:**

- We support legislation requiring agricultural equipment manufacturers to make available the necessary documents, software and information to allow independent shops and individuals to repair equipment.

After talking to farm equipment manufacturers, they are rolling out a program to offer a Right-to-Repair program that includes documents, software and information this year. **Instead of pushing for legislation, Maryland Farm Bureau has agreed to work with the different equipment manufactures to assist with regional showcases for the dealers to rollout this new Right-to-Repair program and information this summer.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colby Ferguson'.

Colby Ferguson  
Director of Government Relations

*For more information contact Colby Ferguson at (240) 578-0396*