



New York Farm Bureau

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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Senate Bill 1688 (Senator Sanders)/ Assembly Bill 1630 (Assemblymember Buttenschon)

**AN ACT TO AMEND THE ENVIROMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW, IN RELATION
TO THE USE OF WASTE TIRE MANAGEMENT AND RECYCLING FEE FUNDS**

Date: 1/23/2023

New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest agricultural advocacy organization, respectfully requests your support for this legislation. If enacted this legislation would expand the Department of Economic Development's authority to collect market analysis, demonstration projects to include reuse of waste tires in agricultural settings, and to conduct an analysis of waste tire reuse opportunities.

In 2017, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation finalized its Solid Waste Management Regulations, commonly referred to as Part 360. Part of these regulations applied to "waste tires" on farms, which are used on feed bunks to preserve animal feed. Aimed to address concerns around tires being breeding grounds for mosquitos, the Department enacted regulations that would require farmers to halve and drill holes in tires to prevent the retention of water. Unfortunately, most tires in the United States are radial-ply tires that contain metal wires that if drilled could contaminate feed and pose a health hazard to cows.

This legislation would help address unwanted farm tires through funding at the Department of Economic Development by expanding of a program to provide funds to businesses to develop technology that leads to new and increased markets for waste tires as well as funding for demonstration projects for reuse in agricultural settings. Not only will this bill help facilitate the reuse and recycling of tires in agriculture, it will help alleviate unwanted tires being dumped.

For these reasons, New York Farm Bureau requests your support of this legislation. Thank you for your time and consideration of these comments.