



New York Farm Bureau
Renée St. Jacques
Assistant Director of Public Policy
P.518.436.8495
rstjacques@nyfb.org

MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Senate Bill 4876 (Senator Metzger)/ Assembly Bill 4773 (Assemblymember Barrett)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW, IN RELATION TO INCLUDING THE ASIAN LONGHORNED TICK ON THE INVASIVE SPECIES LIST; AND THE AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS LAW, IN RELATION TO REQUIRING THE PREPARATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BEST PRACTICES IN TREATING LIVESTOCK AND FARM PROPERTIES FOR ASIAN LONGHORNED TICK TREATMENT, PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT

Date: 6/3/2019

New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest general farm organization, would like to express its support for this legislation. This bill would add the Asian Longhorned Tick (ALT) to the state invasive species list so that it will be included in the invasive species management plans for New York.

This legislation also would require the development of recommendations for ALT treatment, prevention and management for farms. The ALT feeds on a wide range of animals and birds, including cattle, sheep, pigs and chickens. It can transmit a variety of diseases such as tick-borne theileriosis which can cause anemia and possible death in certain livestock. It is important that farmers are given information on the ALT and warned of the dangers it can have on livestock.

Species are added to the New York invasive species list through a process by the Invasive Species Council (ISC), Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC) and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Prior to adding species to the list, ISC and ISAC review the socio-economic and ecological assessments done by the DEC for each proposed species. While it is imperative that the ALT is added to the state invasive species list, it is also important that the ALT goes through this process so that the assessments are considered by the members of ISC and ISAC.

New York Farm Bureau thanks the sponsors for highlighting this important issue and respectfully requests your support of this legislation.