MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Assembly Bill 10464 (Gunther) Senate Bill 8464 (Metzger)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS LAW, IN RELATION TO LAND USED IN AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION; AND PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF SUCH PROVISIONS UPON EXPIRATION THEREOF

Date: 7/13/2020

New York Farm Bureau, the state’s largest agricultural advocacy organization, respectfully requests your support for this legislation. If enacted, this bill would allow property owners who are currently qualified to receive an agriculture assessment to do so on the 2020-2021 assessment roll even if the farm would not qualify for the assessment due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many farmers across the state will have a difficult time reaching the $10,000 threshold to qualify for an agriculture assessment. This bill would be a great financial relief for our agriculture community. Agriculture assessments are critical to our farmers as it allows for their land to be assessed based on its agricultural value and not the commercial value.

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