



**New York Farm Bureau**

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# **MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT**

**Assembly Bill 9649 (Assemblymember Woerner)/ Senate Bill 8741 (Senator Hinchey)**

**AN ACT AMEND THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LAW, THE STATE FINANCE LAW AND THE AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS LAW, IN RELATION TO ENACTING THE NEW YORK TEXTILE ACT**

**Date: 5/10/2022**

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New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest general farm organization, would like to express its support for this legislation. This bill takes steps to support the growth of the animal and plant fiber growing, processing, and textile manufacturing industry in New York.

Animal and plant fiber is an important product used in the textile industry and as more farmers raise animals or grow specific crops for fiber, there is also an increasing consumer demand for New York grown fiber products. There are farmers raising animals, such as sheep and alpacas, specifically for the fiber. Also, there is increasing interest in growing hemp for its fiber. In order to support the growth of the farm fiber to fabric movement in New York, the state needs to take steps to expand opportunities for this industry through the state's economic development programs.

For these reasons, New York Farm Bureau respectfully requests your support of this legislation.