



New York Farm Bureau

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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Assembly Bill 1080-B (Assemblymember Woerner) / Senate Bill 1218-B (Senator Comrie)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE EXECUTIVE LAW, IN RELATION TO THE APPOINTMENT FOR AGRICULTURAL REPRESENTATION ON THE STATE FIRE PREVENTION AND BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

Date: 2/23/2024

New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm advocacy organization, requests your support for this important legislation. If enacted, this bill would add a sixteenth member to the State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council. This member would be appointed by the Governor to represent agricultural producers on the council.

The State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council is responsible for making and setting standards to prevent loss of life, injury, and damage to a property. Many of the decisions made by this council have impacted agricultural operations and the structures farms rely on, this includes what structures can be defined as an agricultural building according to the code. Farmers statewide have run into roadblocks when trying to build new on farm structures for their operation. Agriculture is a unique industry and requires certain procedures to ensure the proper management of crops and animals.

At this time and in the near future the Code Council will be considering many new regulations when it comes to the new energy standards making for an important time for agriculture to be involved in the process. There is currently no representation for the agriculture industry on the council therefore, farmers must be given a seat at the table to share input on the unique needs of agriculture and assist in creating workable standards. It is crucial that the agriculture industry is represented in the process and that their perspective on changes to code can be heard.

New York Farm Bureau respectfully requests your support of this legislation.