



New York Farm Bureau  
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# MEMORANDUM OF OPPOSITION

**Assembly Bill 732-A (Rosenthal)**

## **AN ACT TO AMEND THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW, IN RELATION TO PROHIBITING THE USE OF GLYPHOSPHATE ON STATE PROPERTY**

**Date: 6/6/2019**

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New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest agricultural advocacy organization, respectfully opposes this legislation. The legislation sets a dangerous precedent, that could in the end lead to negatively impacting the agricultural industry in New York, by unnecessarily restricting the use of a duly studied and registered pesticide product.

This bill would prohibit the use of glyphosate on state property. Glyphosate is widely used in most herbicide products to control the growth of weeds and grasses. Herbicides are used to keep weeds from battling with crops for water, nutrients and sunlight as well as for vegetation control. Glyphosate could be critical for farmers growing fruit, vegetables, corn, soybeans, nuts and other food crops growth.

Glyphosate has been registered with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) since 1974 and has since been reviewed and reassessed within the EPA's registration review program. The EPA has found no risks when glyphosate is used properly with its current label. Most states accept the EPA review and registration for allowed use in their states, however New York is one of the few states that reviews products for environmental and health impact prior to registration in the state, creating a dual certification process.

Passing this legislation sets a dangerous precedent, usurping a state regulatory agency's statutory responsibility to review and register these products in New York State. Farmers have relied on the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for regulations and scientific credibility, it is important to not set a precedent to bypass the DEC's authority.

Given these reasons New York Farm Bureau respectfully requests your opposition to this legislation.