



AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 19, 2022

Gabe Albornoz, President
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Council President Albornoz: Bill 18-22, Noise Control – Leaf Removal
Equipment - Amendments

On behalf of the Montgomery County Agricultural Advisory Committee-AAC, we would like to provide this testimony in opposition to Bill 18-22, Noise Control – Leaf Removal Equipment - Amendments.

Our understanding is that Bill 18-22 will prohibit gasoline blowers that farmers rely upon to clean dust and debris off their agricultural equipment.

The Agricultural Reserve was created to ensure that Montgomery County would have productive farmland for food and fiber production for future generations. The County Government continues to propose policies that restricts the farmers ability to produce food in a cost-effective way. Electric blowers will simply not work out in field where the farmer needs to clean off their equipment periodically throughout the day as they travel from one farm field to the next. Bill 18-22 would negatively impact our farmers because they cannot rely upon electric blowers that only hold a charge for an hour or two. It is not appropriate for the farmer to go back to the base operation to recharge the batteries or to purchase numerous batteries so they can continue to plant and harvest their crops. The correct action for the County Government would be to exempt agricultural producers from the gasoline blower prohibition.

We thank the County Council for this opportunity to present our views to exempt agricultural producers from Bill 18-22, Noise Control – Leaf Removal Equipment – Amendments.

Sincerely,

Doug Lechliden, Chairman

