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03/08/2026

The Honorable Natali Fani-Gonzalez
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Md. 20855

Subject: Written Testimony on Bill 7-26 Buildings-General Requirements

Montgomery County Farm Bureau is in favor of Bill 7-26.

Bill 7-26 will clarify Agricultural buildings in Chapter 8 of the building code.

By adding a more concise definition in section 2A to assure that the public is protected, and adding a agricultural purpose definition in section 8-2 to assure that modern agriculture can function and be managed as required.

This will allow the business of agriculture the ability to have a structure to process a farm product into a value-added product.

This bill will also allow a farm to have a farm office to conduct and direct the business of the farm. The modern farm business, often involving several millions of dollars in sales, is well beyond the ledger on the kitchen table.

Bill 7-26 will modernize the Montgomery County building codes in chapter 8, to accommodate 21st century Agriculture.

For these reasons and more MCFB supports Bill 7-26.

Doug Lechluder

MCFB President