

1423 Neutral

Dear Senate Agriculture & Veterans Affairs Committee Members,

We agree with proponents of the bill that Subsection 8 (c) creates a legal gray area and that it would be preferable to develop clearer legislation. We also agree with some opponents of the bill that it may be advisable for Engrossed 1423 to include language that would automatically reinstate Subsection 8 (c) at the end of the 2025 legislative session in the event that the model zoning taskforce reaches a stalemate and a comprehensive re-write of the enabling legislation does not materialize.

We believe it is fully possible, and we are hopeful, that a better balance can be struck between stronger support for animal agriculture in the state as well as granting more control for the siting of AFOs and CAFOs to local levels of government. We are hopeful that this section of century code can be re-written in a more comprehensive and nuanced way and that this end can be achieved via the work of the model zoning task force. We are pleased to have been included within the membership of that task force.

We respectfully request that the clause "except as provided for in this section" be tacked onto the end of subsections 4 and 5 as this does not fundamentally alter the legislation. That proposed amendment simply makes it clearer for the Attorney General and the courts to interpret this legislation the way it was intended.