



New York Farm Bureau
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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Senate Bill 7202 (Senator O'Mara) / Assembly Bill 7778-A (Assemblyman Crouch)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW, IN RELATION TO INCLUDING THE MOURNING DOVE WITHIN THE DEFINITION OF "MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS" AND TO ALLOW FOR THEIR TAKING.

Date: 1/8/2018

New York Farm Bureau, the State's largest general agricultural advocacy organization, requests your support of this legislation. If enacted, this bill would list mourning doves as a migratory game bird under New York State Environmental Conservation Law.

Birds, including mourning doves, can have a negative impact on farm operations. Farmers are concerned with the control of mourning doves because they are currently not classified as a migratory game bird in New York State. These birds cause crop damage that leads to financial losses for the farmers. Also, the birds roost and defecate in barns, creating animal health concerns. Mourning doves are already federally classified as "migratory game birds" and this bill would simply add them to the migratory game bird list in New York. By including the mourning dove in this definition, a hunting season can be implemented and farmers will be able to manage the mourning dove population.

For these reasons, New York Farm Bureau respectfully requests your support of this legislation.