



New York Farm Bureau  
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## MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

### **Senate Bill 7742 (Senator Helming)**

***AN ACT TO AMEND THE PUBLIC SERVICE LAW, IN RELATION TO SETTING THE RATE OF CREDIT PER KILOWATT HOUR FOR FARM WASTE GENERATING EQUIPMENT CUSTOMER-GENERATORS, WHICH INCLUDES THE ANAEROBIC DIGESTION OF AGRICULTURAL WASTE***

**Date: 3/12/2018**

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New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest agricultural advocacy organization, would like to express its support for Senate Bill 7742. If enacted, this bill would require on-farm net metering rates for credit to farm digesters at a rate of no less than twelve cents per kilowatt hour (kWh).

This bill is needed to support manure-based anaerobic digesters New York State's farms. This legislation would require that renewable energy generated by on-farm digesters that is net-metered be paid at the rate of twelve cents per kWh. Both existing and potential new farm-based digesters are at a financial disadvantage, as their full benefits to society have not been previously recognized, and currently are not recognized in the new Clean Energy Standard.

Farm-based anaerobic digesters help protect the environment by improving air and protecting water quality. New York State has very aggressive goals for increasing renewable energy and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and farm-based anaerobic digestion is well-situated to contribute to these goals. According to Cornell University, farm-based digesters provide about three times the greenhouse gas emission reduction per unit of energy generated over other renewable energy technologies.

Approval of this legislation would ensure that farms are properly compensated for their investment in improving the environmental quality of life in rural areas, while also helping farms on a financial basis.

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