



New York Farm Bureau

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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Senate Bill 3277 (Senator Skoufis) / Assembly Bill 6011 (Assemblymember Woerner)

**AN ACT TO AMEND THE AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS LAW, IN RELATION
TO ESTABLISHING A PROCESS FOR DESIGNATING TRANSFER-ON-DEATH
BENEFICIARIES FOR FARMING IMPLEMENTS**

Date: 2/28/2025

The New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest farm advocacy organization, requests your support for this important legislation. This bill would define "Farm Implement" and create the concept of transfer upon death beneficiary. If enacted, this bill would allow for farming implements to be transferred without probate to a designated beneficiary. The transfer-on-death beneficiary will be designated by filing necessary documentation with the Commissioner of New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets.

This would help simplify and alleviate some of the time and cost burden of going through the probate process. The designation of a transfer-on-death beneficiary does not affect ownership of the property until the death of the sole owner or the last to die of multiple owners. Allowing farm implements to transfer in a more streamlined way would benefit on farm efficiencies and allow easier transition of implements to keep a farm running smooth. Additionally, the cost of probate can be very burdensome for many farmers who are often operating at a loss.

The New York Farm Bureau respectfully requests your support of this legislation.