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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Senate Bill 5513 (Hinchey) / Assembly Bill 6589 (Woerner)

EXPANDS AGRICULTRAL TOURISM

Date: 4/10/2025

New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest agricultural advocacy organization, respectfully requests your support of this legislation. If enacted, this bill would expand the definition of agricultural tourism to include more on-farm activities.

There have been instances of farmers across New York experiencing difficulties with their local municipalities when they try to expand their on-farm offerings, especially to on-farm breweries/distilleries. This bill would ensure those value-add operations, along with other on-farm beverage, fiber, and food production, are afforded the same protection as other agricultural enterprises.

The growth of the state's farm wine, brewery, and distillery industries has brought renewed interest and energy to rural communities. By updating the legal definition of agricultural tourism, this bill ensures that these evolving, value-added operations receive proper recognition and protection under state law. This bill will help farms remain in production as they expand their operations to offer more opportunities for people to interact with various aspects agriculture.

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