

I would urge you to vote NO on this proposed bill. We are farmers, working hard to feed our Community, State, Nation, and the World. We raise hazelnuts and blueberries. Beaver impact our ability to grow our crop as they are cutting down our trees and flooding portions of our orchards. It is sickening to see what beaver can do in a matter of days (or nights) to an orchard. If our ability to control beaver is taken away from us, we will lose more and more trees, which will impact us not only financially but reduce what we can provide.

All too often, decisions are being made by people that have never stepped foot on a farm. They have no idea what it takes to get food to table. More and more legislation is being passed that makes our job all the harder. It is disheartening. We love our land and are good stewards of it.

The voices of the animal rights movement may be louder than ours because they aren't toiling day after day, like we are, in the fields and orchards to provide for their tables. They have more time on their hands. I pray that you will hear the voices of the farmers today and oppose this bill which will be detrimental to our ability to protect our trees, our crops, from the destruction that beaver cause.