



*Forging a partnership between farmers and consumers.
•Working together for Ohio's farmers•*

May 17, 2016

Dear Chairman Hite and members of the Senate Agriculture Committee:

The Ohio Farm Bureau Federation is pleased to offer this letter of support for Senate Concurrent Resolution 20, sponsored by Senator Bob Peterson. The resolution supports the use of scientific data to assess the impacts and regulations of modern agricultural technologies. The use of scientific data is important when considering public policy in relation to new technologies and practices.

As our state's number one industry, agriculture is not just an economic driver but the source for sustaining the continued population growth our planet can expect during the next several decades. To meet the increased demand on farmers to feed the world, agriculture utilizes the cutting edge of technology and farming practices. Therefore, using sound, scientific approaches in determining which technology and practices are the most efficient, environmentally friendly and affordable is very important for our members. However, farmers can find themselves betwixt using the best and most efficient advances and the laws and regulations from local, state and federal lawmakers regulating their industry. Laws and regulations based on sound science can prevent farmers from being burdened with unnecessary and counter-productive restrictions that stifle the efficient use of farmers' resources. It also limits their flexibility to utilize emerging technologies and practices.

To this end, Ohio Farm Bureau supports the use of sound science when considering legislation or regulations of agriculture and in turn, supports SCR 20. Thank you Chairman Hite and members of the committee for your time and consideration of Farm Bureau's support of Sen. Peterson's concurrent resolution.

Sincerely,

Anthony L. Seegers, Esq.
Director of State Policy