



PENNSYLVANIA
LANDSCAPE & NURSERY
ASSOCIATION

March 23, 2021

The Honorable Elder Vogel Jr., Chair
Senate Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee
Senate Box 203047
362 Main Capitol
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3047

Via: Email

Re: SB 251

Dear Chairman Vogel:

Last summer and fall the Pennsylvania Landscape & Nursery Association (PLNA) worked with the Department of Agriculture (PDA) to develop language for SB 915, last session's fertilizer bill, that would be acceptable to the lawn care industry in Pennsylvania and the Department. We also included the Department of Environmental Protection and the Chesapeake Bay Commission in some of our discussions to assure that the language we were seeking would result in Pennsylvania receiving credit in EPA's Chesapeake Bay model for the industry's efforts and investment.

We appreciate that Senator Yaw incorporated the language we negotiated with PDA into SB 251. This language will simplify the administrative aspects of the program and lead to quicker implementation and compliance by Pennsylvania's lawn care professionals.

PLNA also strongly supports the proposed appropriation of \$100,000 to the PA Department of Agriculture to allow the Bureau of Plant Industry to begin implementation of the bill as soon as it passes. These funds are essential for the development of the computer system to support the program in this bill, the achievement of the bill's water quality goals and credit by EPA.

I would like to affirm that PLNA completely supports the water quality goals and the turf grass fertilizer application best management practices (BMPs) in §6851 and §6852. These BMPs are already embraced by most applicators in the industry.

We look forward to the Senate's expeditious consideration of SB 251 and to working with you on its passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine Dubow".

Katherine Dubow, Chair
PLNA Board of Directors