

7870 E. S. Gratiot County Line Rd. Elsie, MI 48831 517-575-5588 robertc@auraaerial.com

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Michigan Committee on Agriculture,

Position letter regarding House Bill 5700:

In response to Bill 5700, Aura LLC opposes the amendment to 1994 PA 451. Bill 5700 does not support the interest and wellbeing of the Michigan public or its Aerial Applicators. If passed, a ruling of this nature will hold out-of-state applicators to a lesser standard than in-state applicators. The result of which will adversely impact Michigan residents, agriculture, and businesses.

Michigan's agricultural landscape differs in contrast to adjacent states. Field shape, size, obstacles, and rural population are factors to consider. Said differences necessitate a higher standard for agricultural aircraft equipment inspections and pattern testing. Current standards help to protect residents within rural communities through drift mitigation while providing growers with an aerial application based on efficacy. To sacrifice safety nor efficacy is acceptable.

Sincerely,

Robert Ching
Chief Pilot – Aura LLC
Michigan Aerial Application Business