

Farmers and Food Professionals Sign-On Letter
Supporting the *Protect Our Health and Communities Act (SB409/HB449)*
Placing a Moratorium on Fracking in Maryland

Dear Legislator,

We, the undersigned, are members of the Maryland food professionals community – farmers, chefs, restaurant owners, winemakers, cheesemakers, processors, brewers, cider makers, vintners, and retailers. Our livelihoods depend on pure water, healthy soil, and clean air and would be irreversibly damaged by hydraulic fracturing. We urge you to support Senate Bill 409/ House Bill 449, the Protect Our Health And Communities Act, and place a moratorium on fracking in the State of Maryland.

In states that allow fracking, leaks and spills have harmed and killed crops and livestock while sickening people that live and work nearby fracking wells. Evidence has shown that shale gas extraction by fracking is harmful to people, air, water, and soil.

Specifically, hydraulic fracturing endangers a resource critical to so many industries: groundwater. Methane, toxic fracking chemicals, and wastewater have been shown to contaminate underground aquifers, and once this contamination occurs there is no way to mitigate or remove the toxins.

To those of us in Maryland's food community, having access to clean water and aquifers is critical. Agriculture, fishing, restaurants, tourism, and food and beverage production make up a vital economic network in our state, and we rely on clean water and healthy soil to cultivate our local bounty and succeed in our businesses.

We, your constituents, request your aid in representing our interests before the Maryland General Assembly. Protecting our water, soil, and health is vital to continuing Maryland's professional food community's success.

Be our leader and pass the Protect our Health and Communities Act (SB 409/HB 449) for the state of Maryland.

Signed,

Spike Gjerde	Parts and Labor, Artifact Coffee, Shoo-Fly Diner, Woodberry Kitchen
Charlie Gjerde	Alexanders Tavern
Chris Becker	Bagby Restaurant Group
David Newman	Blue Pit BBQ
Donald William McCafferty	Atlas Restaurant Group
Dylan Salmon	Dylan's Oyster Cellar
George Zyradkha	Fountain Farm
Jim Crebs	Tomatoes Etc.
Jinji A. Fraser	Pure Chocolate by Jinji
Joe Edwardsen	Joe Squared

Jon Zerivitz	Union Craft Brewing Co.
Lisa Duff	Oak Spring Farm
Nicholas Bailey	Grand View Farm
Timothy Robert Dyson	Doobyhan Collective
Andrea Cedro	FireFly Farms Creamery & Market
Brian Dyer	Pigtown Food For Thought
Christy Ottinger	Little Gunpower
David and Laura Alima	The Charmery
Dena Leibman	Future Harvest, Chesapeake Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture
Denzel Mitchell	Five Seeds Farm
Elisa Lane	Two Boots Farm
Emma Lise Jagoz	Moon Valley Farm, Inc.
Hana Yoder	Savage River Farm
Heinz Thomet	Next Step Produce
Hugh Sisson	Heavy Seas Beer
Jascha Owens	Butterbee Farm
Joan Norman	One Straw Farm
Jonathan B. Shaw	BaltimOrganic Farm
Katharine Dubansky	Backbone Food Farm
Kim Galbreath	Hawks Hill Creamery
Kyle Sherrer	Millstone Cellars
Laura Beth Resnick	Butterbee Farm
Lucinda Sebastian	Gardener's Gourmet
Matthew Cedro	FireFly Farms Creamery & Market
Max Dubansky	Backbone Food Farm
Meaghan & Shane Carpenter	HEX Ferments
Myeasha Taylor	Real Food Farm
Nadine Grabania	Deep Creek Cellars Winery
Ned Atwater	Atwater's
Opie Crooks	Woodberry Kitchen
Pamela Miller	Charlottetown Creamery
Rob Miller	Distillery Lane Ciderworks
Sam White	Cedar Rock Farm
Sarah Sohn	Young Sohn Gardens
Chad Wells	Alewife Baltimore

William Morrow	Whitmore Farm
Winstead Rouse	Big City Farms
Wolfgang Von Shroeder	Falcon Ridge Farm
John Dove	Love Dove Farms
Lisa M. Jan	Moon Shadow Cafe
Mitchell Pressman	Chesapeake Wine Company
Alison Worman	Farmer
Tyler Brown	Farmer
Ed Fountain	Farmer
David Paulk	Farmer
Wanda Reynolds	Beekeeper/Farmer