

Recommendations of the
MFB Livestock and Poultry Commodity Advisory Committee
From the February 9, 2022 meeting

Recommendation No.1 **PFAS and Agriculture**

The Michigan Farm Bureau Livestock and Poultry Advisory Committee is very concerned about the recent actions by the state of Michigan relative to PFAS on a Michigan beef farm. Understanding that there are no current standards of PFAS levels that have been set to determine regulatory intervention of seizure of farms and their commodities; the state of Michigan moved forward with seizure of a farmers cattle. Currently the farm is not able to sell his cattle and still has to feed and care for them. We are concerned about the precedent this sets for all farms as we move forward and learn more about PFAS.

Current MFB Policy #83, Nonpoint Source Pollution and Watershed Management, states under We Support:

- Scientific, site-specific testing protocols and/or landowner consent prior to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (MDEGLE) determining an area is contaminated, with testing costs, loss of land value, and indemnification being the responsibility of the state and/or federal government if the contamination is not the fault of the landowner.
- Using sound science to determine the level of impact of emerging contaminant issues. Before any new regulations are developed the financial impact and liability to the affected community must be determined

The MFB Livestock and Poultry Commodity Advisory supports the following:

“In the event that the state or federal government seize a farmer’s assets and/or interrupt a farmer’s ability to operate on a normal basis due to PFAS or other contaminants; we support the acting agency be held financially liable for current and future losses and expenses; including but not limited to, loss of value of commodities, loss of land, loss of business, etc. and for complete indemnification of everything a farm loses when the state decides a farm's soil, water, crops, or livestock is contaminated. We urge Michigan Farm Bureau to be proactive in holding state and federal agencies accountable for their actions when farm operations are impacted by agency action when no regulatory standard has been established.”

For Policy Development