

## **2020 Policy Resolutions**

*The Members of the Association recently adopted these additions to our Policy Resolutions putting the Association on record as:*

### **State Resolutions**

1. Urging the Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Committee to actively inform growers of the differences between “Jack-O-Lantern pumpkins” and “Howden pumpkins” for the purposes of reporting their pumpkin acreages to FSA and to explain the possible consequences of how they report their pumpkin acreages.
2. Opposing the closing of Regional Department of Agriculture Offices.
3. Supporting online enrollment or reenrollment of lands for DMAP and Red Tag programs.
4. Supporting the increase of Red Tag and DMAP permits to 4 per hunter per property enrolled in the respective programs.
5. Supporting a requirement for PennDOT to notify CDL drivers and commercial truck owners of Spotted Lanternfly regulations and penalties with their license and registration renewal.
6. Supporting a 50-mile radius of operation from the farmer's farm(s) for farm vehicles with the Type B and Type C biennial certification of exemption.
7. Supporting research funding on the effect of new insecticides, seed treatments and diseases on honeybees.
8. Supporting the exemption of H-2A workers' wages from state unemployment contributions.
9. Supporting the state funding of the review of any mandated DEP permit instead of by the permit holder.
10. Supporting the elimination of all permit fees for farmers to repair or replace non-public agricultural culverts, pipes or bridges.
11. Supporting a requirement for government agencies and authorities levying Stormwater Management Fees to offer offsetting credits to those fees for the following:
  - a) Each acre of compliance under each of the following: an NRCS or County Conservation District approved Conservation Plan, an Erosion and Sediment Plan, an Act 38 Nutrient Management Plan, and/or an implemented NRCS Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan.
  - b) Each approved Manure Management Plan.
  - c) Erosion controlling structures including diversion ditches, grass waterways, stone waterways and terraces.
  - d) NRCS or County Conservation District approved manure holding structures.
  - e) Each acre of forested or wooded acres.
  - f) Positive ratios of pervious to impervious areas.”
12. Opposing any fee, tax or ordinance based on stormwater runoff.

### **State and Federal Resolutions**

1. Supporting increased efforts by the state and federal governments to facilitate broadband internet access to all areas of the state.

2. Supporting the exemption of Pennsylvania agriculture from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) requirements mandated under the Federal Clean Water Act, and the funding by the state of all mandated Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) implementation practices.
3. Supporting the use of water quality monitoring in local watersheds for the verification of theoretical data in the Chesapeake Bay Model.
4. Supporting the use of genetic engineering of potatoes and the modern, enhanced potato breeding methods that enable breeders to improve potato varieties much sooner than traditional breeding methods.

### **Federal Resolutions**

1. Supporting farm labor reform to ensure growers with access to an adequate legal labor force but opposing the Farm Workforce Modernization Act in the form passed by the House of Representatives.
2. Supporting a requirement for the operator of the UAS to gain the written consent of the landowner and/or farm operator if the UAS will be operating above the landowner's private property.
3. Supporting a requirement by the U.S government, as part of the private-government relationship with the National Crop Insurance Services, (NCIS), that the NCIS Board of Directors include at least one active farmer from each of the five major geographical regions of the United States.

*The Association's full Policy Resolutions can be found at <https://www.pvga.org/representation/>.*