

VOTE NO on HB 545

THE RIGHT TO FARM HARM BILL

The Problem:

- HB 545 gives new industrial agricultural facilities a free pass to move into long-standing farming and other rural communities and create nuisances.
- HB 545 is a radical gutting of the "Right to Farm" law. HB 545 assaults private property rights and existing farming and other rural communities.
- HB 545 will force existing private landowners to forever suffer from pollution, odors, flies, dusts, noises, and other unreasonable nuisances with no recourse when they were there first.

Example:

An industrial hog operation moves immediately adjacent to your existing farm or home, where you have worked and lived for decades. Two or three years later, your property values plummet because of the noise, pollution, and smell. Under existing law, you can sue for nuisance and your claims will be allowed to proceed. Under HB 545, your claims to protect your private property and quality of life will be dismissed because the hog facility has been in operation for a year. This is an unneeded, radical change that harms long-standing rural property owners!

The Current "Right to Farm" Law Works and Needs Protection:

- Georgia's current "Right to Farm" law reasonably protects existing farms from people who move nearby and get buyer's remorse. If the farm is there first, it is protected from nuisance suits. An existing farm can even expand or adopt new technologies and remain protected.
- Georgia's current law is much stronger and better protects existing farms than the vague North Carolina law that triggered HB 545.

