



**Michigan
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**Michigan Agri-Business Association
opposes energy law proposal**
*Energy efficiency mandates in current law
provide stronger incentive for utilities to serve
agriculture*

LANSING – The **Michigan Agri-Business Association (MABA)** today announced their opposition to the new (S-3) substitutes of S.B. 437 and 438, noting that the bills would not maintain energy efficiency standards.

“Energy efficiency is a top priority for our industry, and we oppose these bills because they do not preserve the strong energy efficiency standards that have allowed our industry to work with the utilities on energy savings,” said **Jim Byrum**, president of **MABA**. “We have repeatedly emphasized the need for energy efficiency standards that, at least, mirror those contained in current law.”

Byrum said the bills provide utilities little encouragement to maintain their award-winning energy efficiency programs.

Byrum emphasized that prior to the current energy law in Michigan, utilities had virtually no energy efficiency programs in place serving agriculture. He said it is clear that the programs available today are the direct result of the mandatory standards contained in current law. The savings to businesses and farmers, reduced energy use and opportunities for future savings through technological advances would not happen under the new legislation.

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