



Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

3358 Davidsonville Road • Davidsonville, MD 21035 • (410) 922-3426

January 29, 2020

To: Senate Budget & Taxation Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: Support of SB4 - Gaming - Sports Betting – Implementation

On behalf of our member families, I submit this written testimony in support of SB 4, legislation that authorizes sports wagering license holders to accept wagers on sporting events from individuals located at the licensee's video lottery facility or online by an individual physically located in the State. It requires the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission to regulate sports wagering in the State and requires an applicant for sports wagering license or the renewal of the license to pay a fee of \$2,500,000 for the license or \$250,000 for renewal. 20% of the proceeds would go to the Maryland Education Trust Fund. If this bill is passes it will be sent to a referendum to be voted on during the 2020 general election.

Maryland Farm Bureau Policy: Any expansion into other forms of gambling such as table games and sports book similar to Video Lottery Terminals (VLTs) should benefit the equine industry and agricultural education programs.

This bill does not include the current horse racetracks as eligible sites, but should be. We would recommend amending the bill to include current racetracks as eligible sites for the sports wagering licenses.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS SB 4 WITH AN AMENDMENT.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colby Ferguson'.

Colby Ferguson
Director of Government Relations

For more information contact Colby Ferguson at (240) 578-0396