

Erica Cherie Lancaster
12205 Westmont Lane, Bowie MD 20715
HB 1056
FAVORABLE with AMENDMENT

February 21, 2020

Dear Maryland Legislature,

As a lifelong Bowie resident, I ask that you pass HB 1056 with the amendment that the **City Of Bowie is Granted Ownership of the Bowie Race Course/Race Track.**

I also ask that equine activities continue to be allowed once the Stronach Group no longer owns the Bowie Facility.

History:

- A) Bowie, compliments of our Belair Stud, produced the only father/son pair of Thoroughbred racehorses to win the famed Triple Crown.
- B) Barbara Fritchie, an American Patriot who according to legend, stood in the street and attempted to block/antagonize General Stonewall Jackson during the Civil War, was honored by the Bowie Race Course when in 1952 the Barbara Fritchie Handicap was created and first run.
- C) I saw Julie Krone race at Bowie Race Course. Julie is the leading Female Thoroughbred Horse Racing Jockey of ALL TIME. Bowie supported her right, as a woman, to compete when other race tracks allowed her to be harrassed, hit in the face by a male jockey with his whip, thrown into a pool, and the list of indignities goes on.

Bowie created this history. Do not allow our history to be owned by anyone else. **Make sure Bowie is allowed to own it's history.** Bowie has proven it can maintain and protect its history; note the Belair Mansion, the Belair Stud & Stables, and Historic Downtown Bowie.

THANK YOU -- Erica (I rode my first horse in 1978 at the Bowie Horse Center)
c) 443.538.6796 or Erica.Lancaster@LongAndFoster.com if you need me