

SB415 Senator's Cover Letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Senator Karen Lewis Young

Position: FAV

KAREN LEWIS YOUNG
Legislative District 3
Frederick County

Committee on Education, Energy,
and the Environment



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair
Honorable Jim Rosapepe, Vice Chair
Budget and Taxation Committee
Maryland Senate
Annapolis, MD 21401

January 24th, 2024

Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Esteemed Members of this Committee,

SB415 Frederick County - Local Gaming and Authorization for Electronic Tip Jar Dispensers, is not complicated. It **will allow Frederick County's volunteer fire and rescue companies, veterans, athletic, and similar civic organizations to operate electronic tip jar dispensers during permitted gaming events.**

There are some important facts I want to make clear:

- These machines are operated similarly to a raffle.
- We have a history of local gaming and an established permitting authority in Frederick County.
- This is a local bill only and does not expand these activities.
- The name "electronic tip jar dispenser" is to clarify that these machines will dispense lots, like a raffle, from which players can immediately determine the outcome.
- **This bill has unanimous, bipartisan delegation support.**

Due to the nature of gaming events and the serious nature of gambling addiction, I understand concerns that permitting electronic tipping on these events can lead to adverse outcomes. I can confirm that **Maryland law¹ prohibits the use of credit for these purposes.**

With people carrying less cash than ever, we want to help our local rescue companies and civic organizations modernize their offerings. **With that in mind, I ask this committee to return a favorable report.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Lewis Young".

Senator Karen Lewis Young