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 SB58 - Expansion of Commercial Gaming - Referendum - Sports Wagering

On behalf of our member families, I submit this written testimony in support of SB 58, legislation establishes that the General Assembly may authorize, by law, that the State Lottery and Gaming Control Commission may issue a license to offer sports wagering in the State to a video lottery operation licensee or a licensee for thoroughbred racing or harness racing. The bill also provides the General Assembly's intent that, if the voter referendum is approved, State revenues generated by sports wagering be used for dedicated purposes, including public education. 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.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS SB 58 AND ENCOURAGES A FAVORABLE REPORT.

Colby Ferguson

**Director of Government Relations** 

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