

RE: HB 1487 - Public Schools - Agricultural Education and Grant Programs

Maryland Horse Council - SUPPORT

House Ways and Means Committee, March 4, 2020



The Maryland Horse Council is the membership-based, umbrella trade association of the entire horse industry in Maryland. Our membership includes horse farms, horse related businesses, individual enthusiasts, and breed, interest and discipline associations. As such, we stand for over 30,000 Marylanders who make their living with horses, or just own and love them.

The Maryland horse industry comprises 16,000 horse farms and stables covering 25% of Maryland's agricultural land and directly involving 28,000 jobs. In addition there are numerous businesses and services that support the horse industry, such as veterinarians, farriers, tack and equipment stores, hay growers, etc.

This robust industry is reliant on a well-educated and prepared workforce, ready to take on active, productive roles in the industry. Therefore, the Horse Council enthusiastically supports HB 1487 - Public Schools - Agricultural Education and Grant Programs, and urges the Committee to give it a favorable report.

Respectfully submitted,

The Maryland Horse Council
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