

**2\_1\_21 Joint Support Letter.pdf**

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**Senate Bill 533 (Sen. Guzzone)**  
**Horse Racing – Maryland-Bred Race Fund Advisory Committee – Membership**  
**Favorable**

The Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (MTHA), Maryland Horse Breeders Association (MHBA), and Maryland Jockey Club (MJC) support Senate Bill 533, which adds a voting representative for MTHA on the statutorily created Maryland-Bred Race Fund Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee currently consists of five members appointed by the Maryland Racing Commission: two members of and recommended by MHBA; one from MJC, as the mile thoroughbred licensee; one from the Maryland State Fair and Agricultural Society, Inc.; and one from the Commission.

Since 2013, Maryland's thoroughbred racing industry, with the support of the Commission, has collectively sought to provide additional incentives and increase interest in the ownership of Maryland-bred horses. Most recently, in January 2019, the MTHA, MHBA and MJC entered into an agreement to provide additional supplemental funding for Maryland-bred enhancements through 2023.

As a part of that agreement, and recognizing the MTHA's involvement in, and support of the Maryland-bred program, the parties support the statutory addition of an MTHA seat on the Advisory Committee.

In the spirit of cooperation, we collectively ask for a favorable report on Senate Bill 533 and thank the General Assembly for its continued support of a vibrant Maryland racing industry.

Sincerely,

Timothy L. Keefe  
President, MTHA

Sal Sinatra  
President, MJC

Dr. Michael J. Harrison, DVM  
President, MHBA