

Dear Maryland Assembly Members,

I am writing to express concerns and aversion to SB 452 that prohibits waivers of negligence.

This bill takes away the right of two parties to indemnify each other for risky activities. I am strongly against taking away that right.

There are activities that are inherently risky — such as jet skiing, kite boarding, horse riding, rock climbing and sky diving. In these cases “negligence” is a fluid concept. Juries often side with people in pain, over a reasoned approach to negligence. It is NOT that negligence doesn’t happen - but that Maryland citizen should have the right to choose. This bill would take that right away.

The result of passing this bill is clear. Small businesses that make the great Maryland outdoors that we love will cease to exist due to high insurance premiums or worse, unreasonable litigation that ends their businesses.

Please allow individuals to choose if they want to indemnify others during risky activities. Marylanders have the right to choose.

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