

Subject: Support for Preserving Written Waivers in Equestrian Sports

Dear Members of the Maryland General Assembly,

I am a fervent advocate of equestrian sports and a parent to a dedicated rider who actively participates in Maryland's esteemed equestrian community. I am reaching out to implore the General Assembly to refrain from enacting any legislation that would impede barns, clubs, instructors, and other stakeholders in the industry from mandating written waivers for individuals engaging in their services.

These waivers play a crucial role in acknowledging personal accountability and understanding the inherent risks associated with activities like horseback riding. While these pursuits bring immense joy, they also involve potential hazards that participants must willingly acknowledge. The escalating trend of personal injury lawsuits across the nation poses a significant threat to the viability of various sports and businesses that are vital to sustaining these activities.

I urge you to safeguard Maryland's illustrious equestrian legacy and oppose any bill that could be exploited by personal injury attorneys to the detriment of our community. Your support is pivotal in preserving the rich tapestry of equestrian traditions that define our state.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Dawn Lynn Bent