

WITNESS STATEMENT - Bill SB 452

I vote **unfavorable** to this bill. This bill will not only destroy the economy for the state of Maryland, but it will be also dismantle thousands of jobs. I am an equestrian and many of my shows are held in the state of Maryland. If this bill passes then all the shows will have to stop, meaning that the state will no longer be receiving any tax revenue from one of its biggest contributors. The horse world is a multi-billion dollar industry and the state of Maryland has over eight hundred licensed horse barns in the state of Maryland. Many of which offer showing, summer camps etc. If this bill passes thousands of jobs will be lost. Some of the biggest events happen in the state of Maryland and Olympic riders from all over the world come to compete.

I implore you to please vote against this bill. Not just for myself and all my fellow equestrians, but for so many more children who will not be able to do their favorite sport or go to their favor summer camp. Many of my friends children go to wonderful swimming and basketball camps that are in the state of Maryland. And to think of that being a thing of the past is very sad. Not to mention all those camps that help underprivileged children. Or Therapeutic Riding Centers that help those with disabilities and those suffering from PTSD. Maryland has always been rich in its agriculture and its sense of community and it would be a shame for all that to disappear.