

Comments on SB 452

My name is Marcia Nass and I live at 326 Little Quarry Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20878. I board my horse at Sugarview in Dickerson, Md. I am not a barn owner or horse trainer. I am a 64 year old amateur rider who loves the sport.

The illegality of a waiver for negligence regarding horse activities will damage my sport. We all know that people make up ridiculous things and call it "negligence". Horses, like any domestic animal, are unpredictable. If you don't want to accept this, then don't ride horses. It's that simple.

Horse trainers and barn owners are not "Gods" who can waive a wand and tell a horse to act like a robot. This bill is effectively telling horse trainers and barn owners to do that, or else they will be subject to frivolous claims that are likely to cause the horse trainer or barn owner to go out of business. This would be catastrophic for the horse community in the state of Maryland.

Use some common sense. A waiver of intentional misconduct should be unenforceable. But that is not the case here. Reasonable minds can differ on what is negligence.

Do not pass SB 452!

/Marcia Nass/

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