

MAHOGANY



Greetings,

I am Jeff Hargrave, CEO of Mahogany, Inc. Today, I stand before you to advocate against the proliferation of online gambling. As a dedicated professional in the construction industry, I find it pertinent to address the potential ramifications of such ventures. Let us ponder why the state would entertain the notion of endorsing online gambling when its implications on local casino attendance are glaringly evident. Allow me to draw upon our recent endeavor in constructing the sportsbook at Horseshoe Casino, where a staggering 85% of participants opt for online engagement, leaving a mere 15% to revel in the meticulously crafted ambiance of our physical establishment. Furthermore, having contributed to the development of Maryland Live Casino, I bear witness to the vibrancy and vitality it brings to our community, a testament to the allure of in-person experiences. Introducing online gaming to Maryland threatens to diminish the footfall at our esteemed casinos, undermining the very essence of their existence. Additionally, as a member of the Maryland Thoroughbred Racing Operating Authority, I am acutely aware of the challenges facing establishments like Pimlico, which lack the draw of a casino. Now, they also have to compete against our state with online horse racing betting, which adds another layer of difficulty for them. By allowing online gambling to encroach upon traditional forms of entertainment such as horse racing, we jeopardize the livelihoods of countless businesses and communities. Let us not be swayed by fleeting promises, but instead, let us champion initiatives that foster growth and prosperity for all.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hargrave

Specializing In Quality Construction Since 1991

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