

Ways and Means Committee:

REF: HOUSE BILL 337

Subject: Funding for Laurel Racetrack Chaplaincy of Maryland

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing on behalf of the community at Laurel Race Track to request that our local Chaplaincy be provided with adequate funding for the invaluable services they render to our track's staff, jockeys, trainers, and everyone associated with the race track.

As you know, the Racetrack Chaplaincy of Maryland via its Chaplain and board of directors have been a steadfast pillar of support for our community, offering spiritual advice, guidance, emotional support, and practical assistance to all those in need. Whether it's providing counseling during difficult times, leading memorial services, or simply being a comforting presence, Chaplain Ronald's contributions have significantly impacted our community's well-being.

Given the demanding nature of the work at the race track, the presence of a chaplain has been indispensable in promoting mental and emotional health among our members. Recognizing the need for additional funding to support and expand their dedication and service would not only validate their efforts but also ensure the continued provision of these essential services.

We implore you to consider the essential needs that face the residents of the race track and give consideration to voting for this bill. A positive outcome of this bill would serve to enhance the commitment and impact the services provided to our community. We believe that this would be a positive step towards acknowledging the vital role they play in maintaining the morale and spirit of everyone involved with all those working together to improve the lives of the entire workforce that sustains this industry.

Thank you for your consideration and understanding.

Sincerely,

Raul Mena