BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

March 3, 2025

Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary Ways and Means Committee 130 & 131 Taylor House Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Support House Bill 1048 - Sports Wagering - Wagers on Historical Horse Races - Authorization

Dear Delegate Atterbeary:

I am writing this letter to offer strong support of HB1048 as the Vice President of the County Commissioners of Washington County. I recognize that historic horse racing machines would greatly benefit The Boonsboro OTB and compliment the entertainment center that they have built.

The Boonsboro OTB and its unique offerings are a destination here in Washington County. Adding HHR machines as a new offering would have a significant impact on our community bringing new jobs and commerce to a growing county. The Boonsboro OTB has made a substantial investment into its large multifaceted venue and with these machines, the venue will draw a wider audience of clientele.

With an aging demographic of horse racing enthusiasts, and the introduction of online sports gaming, Boonsboro OTB has been faced with many new obstacles. The introduction of HHR machines will continue to keep the OTB business viable and bring revenue otherwise lost to WV or PA here in the state. Ultimately, this translates into tax dollars for crucial programs.

We hope for a favorable outcome, and support HB1048.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey A. Cline, Vice President