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February 11, 2025

The Honorable Members of the Ways and Means Committee
Maryland House of Delegates
House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Letter of Support for House Bill 856 – Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area Funding

Dear Chairperson and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 856, which seeks to appropriately allocate funding from the State Lottery Fund to support the Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area. This vital legislation ensures that much-needed resources are directed toward the maintenance, operation, and development of the historic Fair Hill grounds and facilities.

Fair Hill has long been a cornerstone of Maryland's equestrian heritage and serves as a premier venue for horse racing, outdoor recreation, and community events. By securing dedicated funding from the State Lottery Fund, HB 856 will provide stability for the ongoing maintenance and enhancement of Fair Hill, preserving its significance for both residents and visitors. The proposed allocation of \$850,000 annually through 2030 will allow the Department of Natural Resources to continue improving the site's infrastructure, supporting local businesses, and fostering economic growth in the region.

This investment is critical to sustaining Maryland's reputation as a leader in the equestrian industry while also ensuring that Fair Hill remains a world-class facility for future generations. I urge the committee to advance HB 856 and support the passage of this essential funding measure.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your commitment to maintaining and improving Maryland's rich racing and equestrian tradition. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Streight", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Adam Streight
County Executive