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March 11, 2025

Chair Vanessa E. Atterbeary House Ways and Means Committee Taylor House Office Building, Room 130 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: House Bill 1543 – Sports Wagering Facilities – Request for Relocation on behalf of Canton Gaming, LLC – (Favorable)

Chair Atterbeary, Vice-Chair Wilkins, and members of the Committee,

Canton Gaming, LLC is a locally-owned business that was awarded Class B-2 retail sports wagering facility licenses from the Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Commission ("MLGCC") in February 2023 for two retail sportsbooks in the Towson Greene Turtle (Baltimore County) and the Canton Greene Turtle (Baltimore City).

The company <u>officially closed</u> their Towson retail sportsbook on February 9th, 2025 and would like to move to another location in Pikesville a few miles away. The Maryland Lottery and Gaming Control Agency ("MLGCA") has advised that a statutory change is required to permit any relocations or address changes of a Class B-2 retail sportsbook.

House Bill 1543 permits, but does not require, the MLGCC to approve a written request to relocate a <u>competitively awarded</u> Class B-2 retail sports wagering facility's licensed premises (i) within the same county; and (ii) subject to all existing statutory radius restrictions and other provisions of the Sports Wagering Law.

We truly appreciate your consideration of House Bill 1543 that provides much needed regulatory flexibility and ultimately allows Canton Gaming's sportsbook to remain operational a few miles away from their current location. We respectfully <u>urge a favorable report of House Bill 1543</u>.

Sincerely,

Jason F. Weintraub