

SENATOR JUSTIN READY  
SENATE CHAIR

SENATOR CHRIS WEST



DELEGATE CHRIS TOMLINSON  
HOUSE CHAIR

DELEGATE CHRISTOPHER ERIC BOUCHAT  
DELEGATE APRIL ROSE  
DELEGATE JOSHUA STONKO

THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401  
CARROLL COUNTY DELEGATION

March 2, 2026

**RE: Support for HB1240 – Sports Wagering – Wagers on Historical Horse Races – Authorization**

Dear Chair Wilkins, Vice Chair Feldmark, and Honorable Members of the Ways & Means Committee,

We write to express our strong support for HB1240, which would authorize wagering on Historical Horse Races (HHR) in Maryland. This legislation is a critical step toward revitalizing the state’s horse racing industry, preserving jobs, and supporting economic development, particularly in Carroll County.

For Carroll County, this legislation holds particular significance. The introduction of HHR will directly benefit local facilities, including **Off Track Betting At Greenmount Station in Hampstead (Carroll County)**, allowing them to grow their business, create sustainable employment opportunities, and boost tourism. Additionally, HHR will generate revenue that supports Maryland horse breeders, farms, and the broader agricultural industry, helping to preserve green space and prevent further loss of farmland—an issue of particular concern in our county.

The success of HHR in other states, including Kentucky and Virginia, demonstrates the economic and industry benefits it can bring. By passing HB1240, Maryland can reclaim its competitive standing, protect its equine heritage, and ensure the viability of racing for future generations.

We appreciate your leadership and respectfully urge a favorable report on this important legislation. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Justin Ready in black ink.

Senator Justin Ready

Handwritten signature of Chris West in black ink.

Senator Chris West



Delegate Christopher "Eric" Bouchat



Delegate Josh Stonko



Delegate April Rose



Delegate Chris Tomlinson