

ERIC EBERSOLE
Legislative District 12
Baltimore and Howard Counties

Ways and Means Committee

Chair
Finance Resources Subcommittee



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Chair Kaiser, Vice Chair Washington, and members of the Ways and Means Committee,

Thank you for your consideration of HB 225 – Gaming-Sports Wagering- Implementation

Several recent developments have brought us to a time when we should implement a state run and controlled system to enable people in Maryland to wager on sporting events:

- 1) The proliferation of off-shore and illegal sports wagering.
- 2) The potential for these unregulated outlets to take advantage of bettors.
- 3) The recent decision by the Supreme Court overturning laws that suppressed state sanctioned sports wagering.
- 4) The desirability of capturing a portion of the revenue going to the unsanctioned outlets and to neighboring states that have already approved sports wagering.

This bill, if enacted by the legislature and with the approval of sports wagering by the electorate in the November, will clear the way to license sports wagering here and respond to each of these developments.

The legislation permits licensing of sports wagering at all six casinos, at the three thoroughbred race tracks, and on line electronically . On line, geo-fenced, wagering platforms are licensed along with the brick and mortar licenses. It establishes the percentage of revenues that will be remit to the state and it also establishes an initial licensing fee and an annual renewal fee. All revenues from these will remit to the Education Trust Fund. It also regulates which sports may be included in wagering.

Please consider a favorable motion on this legislation.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eric D. Ebersole".

Delegate Eric Ebersole