



Larry Hogan
Governor

Michael J. Frenz
Executive Director

Members

Thomas E. Kelso
Chairman

Leonard J. Attman
Joseph C. Bryce
Michael Huber
Gary L. Mangum
Manervia W. Riddick
Jodi C. Stanalonis

Maryland Stadium Authority
The Warehouse at Camden Yards
333 W. Camden Street, Suite 500
Baltimore, MD 21201
410-333-1560
1-877-MDSTADIUM
Fax: 410-333-1888

www.mdstad.com

Voice: 800-201-7165
TTY: 800-735-2258

Maryland Stadium Authority - Letter of Support
HB 896 Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization - Camden Yards

BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

The Honorable, Senator, Guy Guzzone, Chair
The Honorable, Senator, Jim Rosapepe Vice Chair

Written Testimony, Letter of Support

Thomas Kelso, Chairman, Maryland Stadium Authority
Michael J. Frenz, Executive Director, Maryland Stadium Authority

Good afternoon, Chair Guzzone and Vice Chair Rosapepe and honorable members of the Budget and Taxation Committee, I am Thomas Kelso, the Chairman with Michael J. Frenz, the Executive Director of the Maryland Stadium Authority (MSA) and we appreciate the opportunity to provide this written Letter of Support for HB 896 Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase Of Bond Authorization - Camden Yards.

This legislation, HB 896 addresses the future of Camden Yards Sports Complex as the teams seek to renew their strong commitment to the State of Maryland and collaborate with MSA on long-term improvements over time designed to extend the useful lives of the stadiums and increase the economic impact from the stadiums for the State, the City, and the teams.

In order to address the long-term future of the stadiums, this legislation was introduced to increase the debt cap from \$235 million to \$1.2 billion, with \$600 million allocated to each stadium. To service the debt, the amount allocated from lottery proceeds will be capped at \$90 million from the current \$20 million. These improvements are designed to increase the economic impact of the stadiums for the State, the City, and the teams.

The MSA's bonding authority was last increased in 1986, this legislation seeks to modify the amount, and retains all the necessary approvals and oversight required for the MSA's projects for the past 35 years. The amount of lottery funds to be requested each year will be only the amount needed for the outstanding debt service, not the full amount.

MSA continues to work with both the Baltimore Orioles and Baltimore Ravens in order to ensure that the stadiums remain best-in-class facilities in terms of safety and fan experience. The creative approach contained in this legislation allows the MSA to work with each team individually to develop, design and construct improvements that will increase returns for them and for the State and City. The MSA believes that our ability to work continuously with each team simultaneously to invest in the stadiums is a critical element to the successful negotiation of agreements that will retain them in Baltimore.

The Camden Yards Sports Complex was the result of visionary leadership and has been a successful investment for the City of Baltimore and the State of Maryland and an important year-round community asset. With this legislation, the State of Maryland, through the MSA, will further that vision for the next generation and expand the exemplary economic development partnerships with both professional teams.

As stadium and fan experience trends evolve, this legislation creates an evergreen and flexible fund for both innovative revenue-generating improvements that align with the **teams' long-term** needs and all of the necessary infrastructure investments required to keep our stadiums competitive. The success of this proposed legislation, and the continuing investments it affords will help ensure the longevity and prosperity of the Camden Yards Sports Complex long into the future.

Since 1992, there has been approximately \$15.9 billion in total spending at the Camden Yards Sports Complex, with \$9.2 billion attributed to the Baltimore Orioles and \$6.7 billion attributed to the Baltimore Ravens. Based on tax revenues of a \$1 billion, less \$670 million in debt service in bonds issued to build the Camden Yards Sports Complex, the State of Maryland has earned a \$330 million return on its investment.

Since 1992	Orioles	Ravens
Approximately 85 million visitors	70 million	15 million
Approximately \$15.9 billion in total spending	\$9.2 billion	\$6.7 billion
Approximately 4,000 jobs each year	2,400	1,600
Approximately \$8.3 billion in employee earnings	\$4.8 billion	\$3.5 billion
Approximately \$1.0 billion in state revenues	\$0.6 billion	\$0.4 billion
Approximately \$670 million in debt service	\$0.45 billion Oriole Park at Camden Yards	\$0.22 billion M&T Bank Stadium

In closing, this legislation demonstrates, through the MSA, Maryland's firm financial commitment to the Baltimore Orioles and the Baltimore Ravens and their respective leagues to remain in our State at the Camden Yards Sports Complex for many years to come. For the reasons expressed in this letter, we request a favorable report on HB 896.



BRANDON M. SCOTT
MAYOR

*Office of Government Relations
88 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401*

HB 896

April 8, 2022

TO: Members of the Senate Budget and Tax Committee

FROM: Natasha Mehu, Director, Office of Government Relations

RE: House Bill 896 - Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization - Camden Yards

POSITION: SUPPORT

Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore City Administration (BCA) **supports** House Bill (HB) 896.

HB 896 would increase the caps on debt issuance and debt service amounts for the Camden Yards Sports Complex, which includes Oriole Park at Camden Yards and M&T Bank Stadium, to enable necessary investments in and redevelopment of the site. The Camden Yards Sports Complex is an important source of entertainment, jobs, tourism, and associated revenue for not only Baltimore City but the State of Maryland. Ensuring the complex can be not only renovated but reimaged for the continued enjoyment of our residents is important to the Scott Administration.

Year-round events at the Camden Yards Sports Complex create jobs and generate sports, leisure, and business visitor spending with the resulting tax revenues reinvested to fund essential citizen services and improve Marylander's quality of life. Positive images of our City during broadcasts of home games communicate to viewers that Maryland is open for both business and leisure.

The complex provides significant value to all Marylanders. In addition to MLB and NLF games, facilities are also used year-round for major motion picture and television locations, international soccer matches, college sports, concerts, V.I.P. visits, cultural festivals plus corporate events, non-profit fundraisers, graduations, proms, weddings, and family functions. In the event of severe weather events, the Camden Yards Sports Complex houses emergency crews, their



The Honorable, Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair
The Honorable, Senator Jim Rosapepe, Vice Chair
Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: HB0896 - Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization - Camden Yards

Dear Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to enthusiastically submit support HB896 on behalf of the Downtown Partnership of Baltimore (DPOB) and its Board of Directors. The Business Community created DPOB in 1983 to foster a clean, safe, and welcoming environment for residents, businesses, and tourists. DPOB is represented by more than ninety-one prominent businesses and community stakeholders on its board and 650 members.

While Downtown has its challenges, our momentum over the past 18 months is trending in the right direction and essential to the economic vitality of the City. The Administration's commitment to relocating the state agencies to the core of Downtown was a much-needed catalyst. Results of an economic impact study on the traditional core by economic development expert, Richard Clinch, PhD, highlighted Downtown as the economic driver of the city, while also noting the need to update infrastructure and increase amenities to support the anticipated growth.

The development of the Camden Yards Sports Complex was visionary and inspired a generation of urban revitalization across the nation. With its national prominence, the complex welcomes sports and entertainment experiences that help make Baltimore a destination of choice. As a result, Downtown receives incredible economic benefits with impact beyond the field and into nearby restaurants, hotels, and office suites. The stadiums provide access to amenities that residents, visitors, and businesses want while injecting vitality into our urban core. This is no time, given our history, to take our two stadiums for granted. We must go forward with vision as we did 30 years ago!

The Downtown Partnership of Baltimore staff and board understand the value of HB0896, which increases the caps on debt issuance and debt service amounts for the Camden Yards Sports Complex. Passage of this legislation will incentivize the Orioles and Ravens to renew their commitments to the State of Maryland and provide resources to increase the already significant economic impacts of the stadiums. This legislation demonstrates Maryland's financial commitment to the teams and their leagues for them to remain in the State for years to come. And this legislation also highlights the State's commitment to investing in the City of Baltimore and all of us who call home, work, or a great place to visit.

If you have any questions or require anything additional, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Shelonda Stokes
President
Downtown Partnership of Baltimore

vehicles, and equipment, plus the Maryland National Guard for any humanitarian relief as necessary. During the especially challenging times of the pandemic, the Camden Yards Sports Complex was transformed into a food relief hub, voting center, testing, and mass vaccination site, serving Marylanders in their greatest time of need.

The time is now to holistically redevelop Camden as the MSA, the Baltimore Orioles, and the Baltimore Ravens reimagining the Camden Yards Sports Complex as the teams seek to renew their strong commitment to the State of Maryland. These stakeholders function as economic development partners with the shared goal of funding facility infrastructure and fan-friendly improvements, while creating a business environment for continued success.

The iconic Camden Yards Sports Complex resulted from visionary leadership and has been a successful investment and an important year-round entertainment and community asset for Maryland. This legislation expands on that vision for the next generation and demonstrates Maryland's firm financial commitment to the Baltimore Orioles and the Baltimore Ravens and their respective leagues. We hope this legislation can ensure that the Camden Yards Sports Complex remains a top destination for future generations of Marylanders' enjoyment and enrichment.

For these reasons, the BCA respectfully requests a **favorable** report on HB 896.



April 5, 2022

The Honorable, Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair
The Honorable, Senator Jim Rosapepe, Vice Chair
Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: HB0896 - Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization - Camden Yards
HB0987 – Sports Entertainment Facilities Act of 2022

Dear Mr. Chair, Mr. Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore (EAGB), I am writing to register our strong support for HB0896. The legislation will increase the cap on debt issuance and debt service from the current limit of \$235M to \$1.2B to be used to improve and enhance the facilities within the Camden Yards Sports Complex. By providing the resources needed for Oriole Park and M&T Stadium to remain competitive top-of-class homes for the Orioles and the Ravens, the State of Maryland will demonstrate their commitment to keeping the teams in Baltimore for years to come.

EAGB is a regional business organization dedicated to marketing the economic assets of the Greater Baltimore region, elevating the Region to a location of choice for employment, investment, and business location. We work in collaboration with our board members and other stakeholders to help catalyze economic opportunities and create pathways that enable residents throughout the region to be able to take advantage of these opportunities.

EAGB's member jurisdictions – Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Howard, Cecil, Carroll, Harford and Baltimore Counties – collaborate on programs and activities that celebrate the strengths of the entire Region, recognizing that the assets of one jurisdiction benefit the others and that Baltimore City is the heart of the Region. A vibrant Camden Yards as the home of two



major league teams is a major asset for the entire Region and a critical element of the City's economic health and vitality.

The Camden Yards Sports Complex was a game changer for stadium development as a catalyst for urban revitalization across the country. More importantly, for over three decades Camden Yards has been a catalyst for economic development resulting in significant economic benefits for Baltimore City, the Greater Baltimore region and the State. This legislation, once passed, will continue this tradition of visionary and future-focused leadership

We also urge approval of HB0897, as amended. Authorizing the Maryland Stadium Authority to issue bonds to assist in advancing the sports and sports entertainment industries throughout the State by financing the acquisition, design and construction of facilities needed for these industries to grow will bring significant direct and indirect economic benefits to the Greater Baltimore region and the entire State.

Mr. Chair, Mr. Vice Chair, and members of the Committee, we urge you to approve HB0896 and HB897. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions.

Respectfully,



Michele Whelley
President & CEO

CC: EAGB Board of Directors
List Attached



2022 EAGB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield: Brian Pieninck, President & CEO – Chair of the Board
Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore: Michele Whelley – President & CEO
Ellin & Tucker, Chartered: Edwin R. Brake, Managing Director & CEO – Treasurer
Whiteford Taylor Preston LLP: Martin T. Fletcher, Managing Partner – Secretary of Counsel

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Baltimore County Government: John A. Olszewski, Jr., County Executive
Baltimore Gas & Electric Company, an Exelon Company: Carim Khouzami, Chief Executive Officer
Bank of America: Janet Currie, Greater Maryland Market President
Merritt Properties, LLC: Scott Dorsey, Chairman & CEO, Merritt Properties LLC
Evergreen Advisors: Rick Kohr, Chief Executive Officer
Johns Hopkins University: Christy Wyskiel, Senior Advisor to the President
M&T Bank: August J. Chiasera, Regional President – Greater Baltimore/Chesapeake
Towson University: Kim Schatzel, President
Venable LLP: Stacie Tobin, Partner
Whiting Turner Contracting Company: Frank Palmer, Executive Vice President

DIRECTORS

Anne Arundel County Government: Steuart Pittman, County Executive
Baltimore City Government: Brandon Scott, Mayor
Carroll County Government: Ed Rothstein, Commissioner
Catalyte: Jacob Hsu, CEO
Cecil County Government: Danielle Hornberger, County Executive
Coldwell Banker Richard Ellis: Jonathan Casella, Executive Vice President
Corporate Office Properties Trust: William Barroll, Managing Senior Vice President
Cushman & Wakefield: Peter Stanford, Managing Director, Global Tenant Advisory
The Daily Record: Suzanne Fischer-Huettner, Group Publisher
Duane Morris, LLP: Bruce Jurist, Partner
Ernst & Young: Steve Canaras, Partner
Exelon: Calvin Butler, Senior Executive Vice President & COO
First National Bank: J. MacGregor Tisdale, President – Maryland Region
Howard Community College: Dr. Daria Willis, President
Harford County Government: Barry Glassman, County Executive
Howard County Economic & Development Authority: Lawrence Twele, CEO (Chair, Advisory Committee)
Howard County Government: Calvin Ball, County Executive
The Howard Hughes Corporation: Greg Fitchitt, President
LifeBridge Health: Neil Meltzer, President & CEO
Loyola University of Maryland: John Coppola, VP - Finance and Administration/Treasurer

1200 Steuart Street, Unit C1B, Baltimore, MD 21230



Maryland Department of Commerce: Mike Gill, Secretary
Miles & Stockbridge: Nancy Greene, Chair
Morgan Stanley: John DeLong, Managing Director
Morgan State University: Dr. David Kwabena Wilson, President
NetCraftsmen: Paul Mauritz, President & CEO
PNC Bank: George von Zedlitz, SVP – Marketing Managing Director
RSM: Art Yonowitz, Partner – Tax Services
St. John Properties: Andrew Roud, Regional Partner
Tradepoint Atlantic: Aaron Tomarchio, Executive Vice President of Corporate Affairs
Truist: Gregory Farno, President – Maryland Region
UMBC Training Centers: Jon Lau, President & CTO
University System of Maryland: Dr. Jay Perman, Chancellor
Verizon Communications: Eric Reed, Vice President – Public Policy & Local Engagement
Wells Fargo: Derek Lynch, Senior Vice President, Commercial Banking Leader

NON-VOTING DIRECTORS

Cybersecurity Association of Maryland: Chris Sachse, CEO, Think|Stack
Cybersecurity Association of Maryland: Shelley Lombardo, COO, Evergreen Advisors
Maryland Tech Council: Todd Marks (Chair of MTC), President & CEO - Mindgrub
Regional Manufacturing Institute: Michael Galiazzo, President
U.S. House of Representatives: Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger – Director Emeritus

VISIT BALTIMORE

400 E PRATT ST, 10TH FLOOR
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

BALTIMORE.ORG

HB896

April 7, 2022

TO: Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee

FROM: Al Hutchinson, President & CEO, Visit Baltimore

RE: **HB 896 Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization Camden Yards**

POSITION: SUPPORT

Honorable Chair Guzzone, and Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee,

Visit Baltimore **supports HB896** Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization Camden Yards.

Visit Baltimore, the official destination marketing organization of Baltimore, supports the reinvestment in the Camden Yards Sports Complex that creates jobs and generates economic benefits to our city from business and leisure travelers throughout the year.

The iconic Camden Yards Sports Complex in Baltimore, which includes Oriole Park and M&T Bank Stadium, is one of the most recognizable landmarks and attractions in Maryland. Positive media impressions during game day telecasts, especially during All Star and play-off games elevates Baltimore as a destination, inspires civic pride and encourages visitation by sports fans and conference guests.

Since 1992, approximately 80 million visitors have contributed to an estimated \$15.9 billion in total spending at the Camden Yards Sports Complex, with \$9.2 billion attributed to the Baltimore Orioles and \$6.7 billion attributed to the Baltimore Ravens.

Visit Baltimore supports this legislation that expands on the visionary leadership that created the Camden Yards Sports Complex.

Submitted respectfully,

Al Hutchinson
President & CEO



SUPPORT

HB896 - Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization - Camden Yards HB897 - Sports Entertainment Facilities Act of 2022

April 6, 2022

Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe & Honorable Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee:

As the sole statewide trade association dedicated to advocacy for Maryland's lodging industry, with more than 700 hotels totaling 75,000+ rooms, we support HB896 and HB897.

In order to address the long-term future of the stadiums, HB896 was introduced to increase the debt cap from \$235 million to \$1.2 billion, with \$600 million allocated to each stadium. To service the debt, the amount allocated from lottery proceeds will be capped at \$90 million from the current \$20 million. These improvements are designed to increase the economic impact of the stadiums for the State, the City, and the teams.

Companion legislation, HB897, was also introduced to create a \$200 million fund to promote the development of sports entertainment facilities across the state, including minor league stadiums where renovations will be necessary to maintain affiliations with major league teams. These minor league teams provide economic benefits to communities and promote synergies between the Orioles and their Maryland-based affiliates.

HB 896 and HB 897 would elevate the state as a sports tourism destination. Camden Yards Sports Complex is a valuable year-round community asset that helps to generate hotel stays and support jobs in Baltimore City and the surrounding areas. The minor league ballparks located in Aberdeen, Bowie, Frederick, Hagerstown, Salisbury and Waldorf do the same in those six local communities.

It is the desire of our members for these stadiums to remain competitive as best-in-class facilities to keep baseball teams and fans here in Maryland. Hotel guests spend \$5B annually throughout the state and hotels generate \$602M in state and local tax. Our industry provides great economic benefit to local communities when hotels are full. In fact, every 10 occupied rooms per night supports nearly 25 local jobs.

For the reasons expressed in this letter, we request a favorable report on HB H96 & HB 897.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Rohrer, CAE
President & CEO



April 8, 2022
The Honorable, Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair
The Honorable, Senator Jim Rosapepe, Vice Chair
Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

HB896 - MARYLAND STADIUM AUTHORITY – INCREASE OF BOND AUTHORIZATION - CAMDEN YARDS

Dear Senator Guy Guzzone and Senator Rosapepe,

My name is Kristin Hanna and I am the legislative chair for the Maryland Tourism Coalition as well as the Senior Director of Marketing for Flying Dog Brewery. I am writing on behalf of Maryland Tourism Coalition today - an organization that represents tourism and hospitality businesses in Maryland. As we continue to battle the effects to COVID-19, we recognize that any support for Camden Yards will be a huge benefit to our entire eco-system. We urge you all to support increasing the debt cap listed in HB 896.

In order to address the long-term future of the stadiums, legislation was introduced to increase the debt cap from \$235 million to \$1.2 billion, with \$600 million allocated to each stadium. To service the debt, the amount allocated from lottery proceeds will be capped at \$90 million from the current \$20 million. These improvements are designed to increase the economic impact of the stadiums for the State, the City, and the teams.

Year-round events at the Camden Yards Sports Complex create jobs and generate sports, leisure and business visitor spending with the resulting tax revenues reinvested to fund essential citizen services and improve Marylander's quality of life. Positive images of our State during broadcasts of home games communicate to viewers that Maryland is 'Open for Business'.

In addition to MLB and NFL games, usage of the facilities for major motion picture and television locations, international soccer matches, college sports, concerts, V.I.P. visits, cultural festivals plus corporate events, non-profit fundraisers, graduations, proms, weddings, and family functions, further contribute to the value of the Camden Yards Sports Complex for Marylanders throughout the year.

As we compete with surrounding states to attract visitors, investing in our assets is critical. We know the resiliency of this amazing community and we look forward to your support moving forward.

Sincerely,

Kristin Hanna

Kristin Hanna
MTC Legislative Chair
Flying Dog Senior Director of Marketing
kristin.hanna@flyingdog.com
480-710-2920

JOHN MORTON, III
POST OFFICE BOX 9765
ARNOLD, MARYLAND 21012

April 5, 2022

The Honorable, Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair
Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Letter of Support - HB 896 Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization - Camden Yards
To Chair Guzzone and the Honorable Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee:

I am John Morton III, Chairman Emeritus of the Maryland Stadium Authority, and offer my support of HB0896 - Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization - Camden Yards that further elevates Maryland as sports destination by investing in our award-winning facilities to maintain our professional teams and create business opportunities across the state for years to come.

The Camden Yards Sports Complex was a game changer for stadium construction, inspiring a generation of urban revitalization across the nation and serving as a catalyst for economic development for our city and state. Year-round events at the Camden Yards Sports Complex creates jobs and generates visitor spending with the resulting tax revenues reinvested to fund essential citizen services and improving Marylander's quality of life. Since 1992, by welcoming over 80 million visitors, there has been an estimated \$15.9 billion in total visitor spending at the Camden Yards Sports Complex, with \$9.2 billion attributed to the Baltimore Orioles and \$6.7 billion attributed to the Baltimore Ravens.

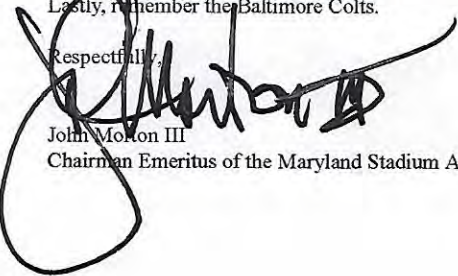
HB 896 before you today addresses the future of Camden Yards Sports Complex as the Orioles and the Ravens seek to renew their strong commitment to the State of Maryland and collaborate with MSA on long-term improvements over time designed to increase the economic impact of the stadiums for the state, the city, and the teams. This legislation demonstrates, through the MSA, Maryland's firm financial commitment to the Orioles and the Ravens and their respective leagues to stay and play in Maryland.

In closing, Maryland is blessed with two of the finest stadiums in Major League Baseball and the National Football League. It would be a tragedy for the State to see either one of these stadiums sit empty and without the Orioles or the Ravens. There would be a devastating economic impact on the State and the City and all Marylanders would experience immeasurable loss in the quality of life.

Maryland should not take for granted that our teams will always be with us in Baltimore or the State. Both teams have private ownership and many cities would provide significant incentives to lure the Orioles or the Ravens into relocating. To retain the teams, our responsibility is to continuously perform timely maintenance and invest in periodic upgrades to retain top tier status.

Lastly, remember the Baltimore Colts.

Respectfully,



John Morton III
Chairman Emeritus of the Maryland Stadium Authority

April 8, 2022

William P. Jones
4 Farview Road
Baltimore MD 21212
410-206-8326

The Honorable, Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair
The Honorable, Senator Jim Rosapepe, Vice Chair
Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Letter of Support - HB 896 Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization - Camden Yards and HB 897 Sports Entertainment Facilities Act of 2022

To Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe and Honorable Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee:

I am writing this letter to demonstrate my support for HB 896 Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization - Camden Yards and HB 897 Sports Entertainment Facilities Act of 2022. The funds that would be made available would insure that both the Baltimore Ravens and the Baltimore Orioles will remain in Baltimore Maryland for the foreseeable future.

In 1979, I joined the Orioles Designated Hitters (DH) Club, a volunteer organization whose mission was to help the Orioles establish financial stabilization through the sale of season tickets. The success of the DH Club and other factors were instrumental in Edward Bennett William's decision to keep the Orioles in Baltimore. This resulted in the formation of the Maryland Stadium Authority, the signing of a 30 year lease and the subsequent building of Oriole Park at Camden Yards.

Since 1992, by welcoming approximately 85 million visitors, there has been an estimated \$15.9 billion in total spending at the Camden Yards Sports Complex, with \$9.2 billion attributed to the Baltimore Orioles and \$6.7 billion attributed to the Baltimore Ravens. The passing of these bills will further benefit Baltimore City, the Greater Baltimore Region and the State of Maryland. The direct economic benefit will be in the tens of millions of dollars. The indirect benefits will be immeasurable. For the reasons expressed in this letter, I respectfully request a favorable report on HB 896 and HB 897 and am available for any questions that you may have.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William P. Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" being more prominent and the last name "Jones" following in a similar style.

William P. Jones
Past President and CEO, The Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore

April 5, 2022

Harold I. Hackerman
3304 Redspire Lane
Pikesville, MD 21208
HHack@ellinandtucker.com

The Honorable, Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair
The Honorable, Senator Jim Rosapepe, Vice Chair
Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Letter of Support - HB 896 Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization - Camden Yards and HB 897 Sports Entertainment Facilities Act of 2022

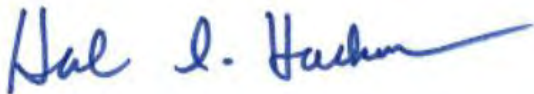
To Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe and Honorable Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee:

As a member of the member Orioles Designated Hitters Club (1979-present) and a member of Ravens Scouts (2019-present), a volunteer ticket sales force with the goal of bolstering the team's ticket sales efforts I support HB0896 - Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization - Camden Yards and its companion bill, HB0897 - Sports Entertainment Facilities Act of 2022 that reinvests in the state's sports venues which creates jobs, generates economic benefits, encourages visitation and inspires civic pride.

The iconic Camden Yards Sports Complex resulted from visionary leadership and has been a successful investment and an important year-round entertainment and community asset for the greater Baltimore region. Furthermore, the teams stretch their influence across the state with Baltimore Orioles' minor league affiliates in Harford, Wicomico and Prince George's Counties and with the Baltimore Ravens headquarters and state-of-the-art training facility in Baltimore County. This legislation expands on that vision for the next generation and demonstrates Maryland's firm financial commitment to the Baltimore Orioles and the Baltimore Ravens and their respective leagues.

I look forward to celebrating the 30th anniversary of our beloved ballpark with the passage of HB 896 that affords an investment in the Camden Yards Sports Complex for future generations of Marylanders enjoyment and enrichment. You may reach me at any time with any questions.

Thank you,



Harold I. Hackerman
Member Orioles Designated Hitters Club (1979-present)
Member of Ravens Scouts (2019-present)

April 4, 2022

Robert J. Carr
2000 Chesapeake Valley Road, Apt 10
Baltimore, MD 21201
Bob.Carr@mda.com

The Honorable Senator Lyle Ligonis, Chair
The Honorable Senator Jim Ransappe, Vice Chair
Budget and Finance Committee
11 West, Millers House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Letter of Support - 100 000 Maryland Stadium Authority - Governor of West Administration -
Champion Tracks and 100 000 Sports Development Facilities Act of 2022

To: Chair Governor, Vice Chair Ransappe and Honorable Members of the Budget and Finance
Committee:

As the proud owner of Sales, Event Broadcasting, WBAL Radio, the largest flagship
station of the Disney and Hearst radio networks, I have firsthand knowledge of the economic
impact of our professional sports teams in the greater Baltimore region and across the state and
as in support of 100000 - Maryland Stadium Authority - Governor of West Administration -
Champion Tracks and 100000 - Sports Development Facilities Act of 2022
that invests in our world-class facilities to continue our professional teams, grow our
community and create business opportunities for years to come.

For 17 years, the Champion Tracks Sports Complex has served as a catalyst for economic
development for our city and state. Your event events create jobs and generate vibrant spending
with the resulting tax revenue reinvested in local essential public services and improving
Maryland's quality of life.

The positive images of our city and our state during broadcasts of home games and the
generosity of the state with your support support of their commitment further contribute to cities
of Maryland being home of these professional teams.

In closing, 100 000 Investments, through the Maryland Stadium Authority, the State's first
financial commitment to the teams to their owner their long-term agreement to stay and play in
Baltimore, Maryland. For the reasons described in this letter, I offer my support of 100 000 and
100 000 and am available for any questions that you may have.

Thank you,



Robert J. Carr

Editor, Governor of Sales, Event Broadcasting, WBAL Radio, Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS)