



February 16, 2022

House Bill 718

**Anne Arundel County – Local Development Council – Delegate
Appointments**

House Ways and Means Committee

Position: FAVORABLE

Anne Arundel County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 718 – Anne Arundel County – Local Development Council – Delegate Appointments. House Bill 718 increases, from two to three, the number of delegates appointed to the Local Development Council (LDC) established for the geographic area around the Live! Casino, which is the only video lottery facility located in Anne Arundel County. Aside from the delegate appointees, the LDC is composed of 13 other members, including a State Senator, four business representatives, seven community representatives, and a representative from the casino.

The purpose of the LDC is to advise the County Executive on the needs and priorities of the communities surrounding Live! Casino and the expenditure of video lottery terminal funds. Anne Arundel County annually receives over \$18 million from revenues generated by video lottery terminals at Live! Casino. These funds are distributed in the form of local impact grants and must be used for improvements primarily in the communities in immediate proximity to the casino. Permitted uses include improvements to infrastructure, facilities, public safety, sanitation, economic and community development, and other public services.

The strategic priorities of the LDC are creating excellent schools, creating sustainable opportunities for individuals and families, and beautifying and revitalizing our communities. Below are just a few examples of the grants provided through the important work of the LDC:

- A grant to the Arc of the Central Chesapeake to support the build-out of a Job Development Center and Computer Lab.
- A grant to Partners in Care, Inc. to support programs for seniors, including transportation, member care, and handyman services.
- A grant to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County to provide services to students, including snacks and meals, enrichment activities, support for virtual school work, and special events.
- A grant to the BWI Community Development Foundation, Inc. to provide beautification services, including litter pickup and debris removal, flower bed maintenance and planting, tree trimming, weed control, and grass cutting.

Anne Arundel County looks forward to having all three delegates from the communities surrounding the Live! Casino represented on the LDC. For all of these reasons, I respectfully request a **FAVORABLE** report on House Bill 718.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stuart Pittman".

Stuart Pittman
County Executive