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

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The Honorable, Delegate Maggie McIntosh, Chair
The Honorable, Delegate Mark S. Chang, Vice Chair

Written Testimony, Letter of Support

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

Good afternoon, Chairs McIntosh and Chang and honorable members of the Appropriations 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.



LARRY HOGAN
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

March 15, 2022

The Honorable Chair Maggie McIntosh
121 Taylor House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Vice Chair Mark Chang
121 Taylor House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair McIntosh, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee,

For 35 years, the Maryland Stadium Authority (MSA) has operated the award-winning Camden Yards Sports Complex, which includes Oriole Park at Camden Yards and M&T Bank Stadium, on behalf of the State in partnership with the Baltimore Orioles and the Baltimore Ravens.

The Camden Yards Sports Complex was a game changer for stadium construction with co-located baseball and football facilities with shared amenities in an urban destination with a transit hub. Maryland's world-class sports facilities inspired a generation of urban revitalization across the nation and continue to serve as catalysts for economic development for our State.

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 communicates to viewers that Maryland is open for both business and leisure.

Since 1992, there has been approximately \$15.9 billion in estimated 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 \$1 billion, less \$670 million in debt service for bonds issued to build the Camden Yards Sports Complex, the State of Maryland has earned a \$330 million return on its investment.

The MSA, the Baltimore Orioles, and the Baltimore Ravens, are now reimagining the Camden Yards Sports Complex as the teams seek to renew their strong commitment to the State of

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TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY

Maryland and continuing one of the most successful public-private partnerships ever in Maryland. Discussing new agreements with both teams simultaneously presents a once in a generation opportunity to redevelop the Camden Yards Sports Complex holistically. MSA and the teams will function as economic development partners with the shared goal of funding facility infrastructure and fan-friendly improvements, while creating a business environment for continued successes.

The iconic Camden Yards Sports Complex resulted from visionary leadership and has helped transform the west side of downtown Baltimore as a year-round entertainment destination. This legislation expands on that vision for the continued development of the Complex as a hub for live, work and play that will result in even greater economic returns for Maryland while demonstrating Maryland's commitment to the Baltimore Orioles and the Baltimore Ravens and millions of fans who attend games and other events each year.

In the upcoming 2022 baseball season, I look forward to celebrating the 30th anniversary of our beloved Oriole Park at Camden Yards with an investment in the Camden Yards Sports Complex for future generations of Marylanders enjoyment and enrichment.

Sincerely,



Larry Hogan

Governor



BRANDON M. SCOTT
MAYOR

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

HB 896

March 15, 2022

TO: Members of the House Appropriations Committee

FROM: Brandon Scott, Mayor, City of Baltimore

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

POSITION: SUPPORT

Chair McIntosh, Vice Chair Change, 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

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 the 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.



BARRY GLASSMAN

HARFORD COUNTY EXECUTIVE

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

15 March 2021

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

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to register my support for 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 will provide resources to increase the already significant economic impacts of the stadiums. This legislation clearly demonstrates Maryland's financial commitment to the teams and their leagues in order for them to remain in the state for years to come.

Development of the Camden Yards Sports Complex was a game changer for stadium construction, inspired a generation of urban revitalization across the nation, and continues to serve as a catalyst for economic development for our city and state. This legislation, once passed, will continue that tradition of visionary leadership.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Barry Glassman', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

County Executive, Harford County

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

March 10, 2022

The Honorable, Chair, Delegate Maggie McIntosh
Appropriations Committee
House Office Building, Room 121
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

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

Madam Chair McIntosh and the Honorable Members of the Appropriations 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.

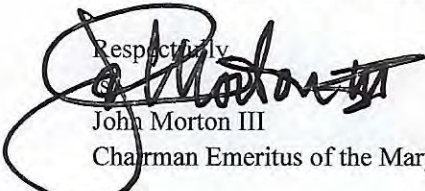
HB 896 before you today addresses the future of Camden Yards Sports Complex as the Orioles and the Ravens seek to renew their strong commitment to the State of Maryland and collaborate with MSA on long-term improvements over time designed to increase the economic impact of the stadiums for the state, 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



TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

**HOUSE BILL 896 – MARYLAND STADIUM AUTHORITY – INCREASE OF BOND AUTHORIZATION –
CAMDEN YARDS**

Sponsor – Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request - Departmental - Stadium Authority)

March 15, 2022

**DONALD C. FRY
PRESIDENT & CEO
GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE**

Position: Support

House Bill 896 would increase the amount of taxable or tax exempt bonds that the Maryland Stadium Authority (the Authority) may issue for the two sports facilities at the Camden Yards complex, Oriole Park at Camden Yards and M&T Bank Stadium. The two stadiums serve as the home for the Baltimore Orioles baseball franchise and the Baltimore Ravens football franchise, respectively.

Specifically the bill would permit the Authority to borrow in the bond market up to \$1.2 billion, an increase from the current cap of \$235 million. The bill would permit borrowing up to \$600 million for each facility.

The bill would also require the Authority to negotiate a lease (or renewal or extension of a lease) with the two teams' ownership prior to financing the acquisition and construction of any part of a sports facility and to obtain the approval of the Legislative Policy Committee and Board of Public Works of any lease, renewal or extension. It also alters the amount that the state Comptroller would be required to distribute from the State Lottery Fund to the Maryland Stadium Facilities Fund.

The Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) strongly supports this legislation because it would serve to ensure the stadiums are properly modernized as needed in future years, thereby greatly extending the useful life span of the facilities to 75-80 years each. The bill would also serve to ensure both teams remain in Baltimore in the long-term.

With the current cost of a new professional sports stadium well over \$1 billion – SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles cost an estimated \$5 billion – it makes prudent economic sense to fund needed renovations and modernizations as they arise to avoid the potential of either stadium becoming outdated and needing to be replaced should the Orioles or Ravens ownership seek a new stadium as a condition of staying in Baltimore. It is worth noting that the Texas Rangers' stadium was built after Oriole Park opened and subsequently has been replaced with a new stadium (Choctaw Stadium), which cost an estimated \$1.2 billion. The city of Arlington, Texas contributed \$500 million.

The GBC also believes that the economic benefit of the two stadiums is immensely significant to Baltimore, the greater Baltimore region and to the State of Maryland.

GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE

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This economic impact extends to nearby retail shops, restaurants, hotels, parking vendors and more which cater to local and out-of-town fans. It is estimated by the Authority that the stadiums have contributed more than \$1 billion in tax revenue for the city, region and state.

Based on statistics compiled annually by a consultant to the MSA, the Orioles and Ravens have contributed the following to the city, regional and state economy since 1992 (all figures are approximate).

	Orioles	Ravens
85 million visitors	70 million	15 million
\$15.9 billion in total spending	\$9.2 billion	\$6.7 billion
4,000 jobs each year	2,400	1,600
\$8.3 billion in employee earnings	\$4.8 billion	\$3.5 billion
\$1.0 billion in state revenues	\$0.6 billion	\$0.4 billion

The loss of this vital economic activity would be significant, especially on the many small businesses in the area surrounding Camden Yards that rely heavily on the venue's activity to stay in business and support the jobs they provide.

The GBC also contends that renovations and modernizations undertaken with the increased funding would be leveraged by the teams in their marketing of their sport and to retain and attract fans. That, in turn, would result in added income for the teams, as well as additional income for state as lease payments are based on amount of money generated by teams through fan attendance. Another key economic benefit is that the state's increased investment in the stadiums is likely to yield new private investment near the stadiums. The Horseshoe Casino, the Paramount concert venue and Top Golf near the Camden Yards complex are examples of the type of major investment that could be spurred by stadiums modernized as fan expectations and infrastructure needs demand.

In addition, the bill would establish an important beneficial relationship between the teams and the state. For one, the increased borrowing authority and structure will create an "evergreen" partnership. Specifically, the Orioles and the Ravens will each be provided the flexibility to seek funding for stadium improvements without being required to return again and again for legislative approval each time they wish to made improvements to the facilities.

This bill is consistent with two of the key tenets in *Gaining the Competitive Edge: Keys to Economic Growth and Job Creation in Maryland*, a report published by the GBC that identifies eight core pillars for a competitive business environment and job growth:

Strategic and effective state investments in business growth. The state must commit to substantive strategic investments, leveraged with capital assets, to nurture business and job growth. Investments should include competitive and effective tax credits, business development incentives, and tactical initiatives to nurture private investment in industry growth.

Government leadership that unites with business as a partner. Maryland leaders must set a welcoming tone that communicates positive support for business, respect for the private sector as a partner, not an adversary, and reflects a strategic plan for business growth and job creation.

Increasing the borrowing power of the Authority will provide certainty to the Orioles and Ravens organizations that they will be able to move forward with needed improvements and modernizations in the future and thus assure that both teams will remain in Baltimore for the long-term. This form of partnership would be mutually beneficial to all of the parties involved.

For these reasons, the Greater Baltimore Committee urges a favorable report of House Bill 896.

The Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) is a non-partisan, independent, regional business advocacy organization comprised of hundreds of businesses -- large, medium and small -- educational institutions, nonprofit organizations and foundations located in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard counties as well as Baltimore City. The GBC is a 67-year-old, private-sector membership organization with a rich legacy of working with government to find solutions to problems that negatively affect our competitiveness and viability.



March 11, 2022

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

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

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

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Whelley', is written over a blue ink stamp of the signature. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michele Whelley
President & CEO

CC: EAGB Board of Directors
List Attached



2022 EAGB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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LifeBridge Health, Neil Meltzer, President & CEO
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1200 Steuart Street, Unit C1B, Baltimore, MD 21230



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U.S. House of Representatives: Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger – Director Emeritus

March 11, 2022

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

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

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to register my support for 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 will provide resources to increase the already significant economic impacts of the stadiums. This legislation clearly demonstrates Maryland's financial commitment to the teams and their leagues in order for them to remain in the state for years to come.

Development of the Camden Yards Sports Complex was a game changer for stadium construction, inspired a generation of urban revitalization across the nation, and continues to serve as a catalyst for economic development for our city and state. This legislation, once passed, will continue that tradition of visionary leadership.

I serve on the boards and executive committees of the Downtown Partnership and The Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore, as well as the Chief Executive Officer of an employer based in Baltimore City. I strongly feel that our teams and their stadiums are a critical component to the region's economic viability.

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

Respectfully,



Edwin R. Brake
Director and Chief Executive Officer

ERB/kmd/MD Stadium Authority Letter Ed Brake March 2022.docx



The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

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

Respectfully,


Edward St. John

Founder & Chairman



One Light Street, 17th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202
410 244 3772 FAX 410 244 4459 EMAIL achiasera@mtb.com

August J. Chiasera
Regional President

March 10, 2022

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

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

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Development of the Camden Yards Sports Complex was a game changer for stadium construction, inspired a generation of urban revitalization across the nation, and continues to serve as a catalyst for economic development for our city and state. This legislation, once passed, will continue that tradition of visionary leadership. If you have any questions or require anything additional from us, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "August J. Chiasera". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "A" and "C".



Nancy W. Greene
410.385.3639
ngreene@milesstockbridge.com

March 10, 2022

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh
Chair, House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen St.
Annapolis, MD 21401

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

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Development of the Camden Yards Sports Complex was a game changer for stadium construction, inspired a generation of urban revitalization across the nation, and continues to serve as a catalyst for economic development for our city and state. This legislation, once passed, will continue that tradition of visionary leadership.

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

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Nancy W. Greene', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nancy W. Greene
Chairman, President & CEO



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March 10, 2022

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

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

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to register my support for 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 will provide resources to increase the already significant economic impacts of the stadiums. This legislation clearly demonstrates Maryland's financial commitment to the teams and their leagues in order for them to remain in the state for years to come.

Development of the Camden Yards Sports Complex was a game changer for stadium construction, inspired a generation of urban revitalization across the nation, and continues to serve as a catalyst for economic development for our city and state. This legislation, once passed, will continue that tradition of visionary leadership.

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

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sister Helen Amos, RSM".

Sister Helen Amos, RSM
Executive Chair, Board of Trustees
Mercy Health Services



Office of the President

March 10, 2022

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

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

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

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

Respectfully,

David K. Wilson
President



March 10, 2022

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

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

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC), I am writing to register my support for HB0896. BDC serves as the lead economic development organization in Baltimore City with a mission to retain, grow and attract jobs in the city. HB0896 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 will provide resources to increase the already significant economic impacts of the stadiums to Baltimore City. This legislation clearly demonstrates Maryland's financial commitment to the teams and their leagues in order for them to remain in the state for years to come.

The City of Baltimore recently released its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) called Baltimore Together: A Platform for Inclusive Prosperity. Over 300 stakeholders took part in the development of Baltimore Together, which was endorsed by the Mayor and adopted by the Baltimore City Planning Commission. Baltimore Together calls for the continued upgrade and improvement of Oriole Park at Camden Yards and M&T Bank Stadium. HB0896 will help implement this important recommendation.

Development of the Camden Yards Sports Complex was a game changer for stadium construction, inspired a generation of urban revitalization across the nation, and continues to serve as a catalyst for economic development for our city and state. This legislation, once passed, will continue that tradition of visionary leadership.

If you have any questions or require anything additional from us, please do not hesitate to contact me at ctarbert@baltimoredevelopment.com.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colin Tarbert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Colin Tarbert
President & CEO



March 7, 2022
The Honorable Delegate McIntosh
121 Taylor House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

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

Dear Delegate McIntosh and Appropriations Committee,

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



SUPPORT

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

March 15, 2022

Chair McIntosh, Vice Chair Chang & Honorable Members of the Appropriations 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

March 8, 2022

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

The Honorable, Chair, Delegate Maggie McIntosh
The Honorable, Vice Chair, Delegate Mark S. Chang
Appropriations Committee
House Office Building, Room 121
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

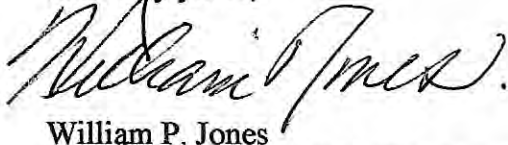
To Madam Chair McIntosh, Vice Chair Chang and Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee:

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 80 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, appearing to read "William P. Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "W" and "J".

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

March 8, 2022

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

The Honorable, Chair, Delegate Maggie McIntosh
The Honorable, Vice Chair, Delegate Mark S. Chang
Appropriations Committee
House Office Building, Room 121
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

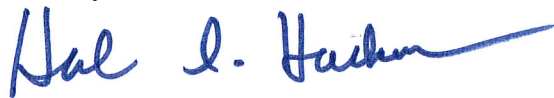
To Madam Chair McIntosh, Vice Chair Chang and Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee:

As a member of the member Orioles Designated Hitters Club (1979-present) and a member of Ravens Scouts (2019 and 2020), 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)

March 8, 2022

Robert J. Cecil
349 Hopkins Landing Drive
Essex, MD 21221
Bob.Cecil@hotmail.com

The Honorable, Chair, Delegate Maggie McIntosh
The Honorable, Vice Chair, Delegate Mark S. Chang
Appropriations Committee
House Office Building, Room 121
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 Madam Chair McIntosh, Vice Chair Chang and Honorable Members of the Appropriations Committee:

As the retired Director of Sales, Hearst Broadcasting, WBAL Radio, the longtime flagship station of the Orioles and Ravens 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 am in support of HB0896 - Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization - Camden Yards and its companion bill, HB0897 - Sports Entertainment Facilities Act of 2022 that invests in our award-winning facilities to maintain our professional teams, serve our communities and create business opportunities for years to come.

For 30 years, the Camden Yards Sports Complex has served as a catalyst for economic development for our city and state. Year-round events creates jobs and generates visitor spending with the resulting tax revenues reinvested to fund essential citizen services and improving Marylander's quality of life.

The positive images of our city and our state during broadcasts of home games and the generosity of the teams with year-round support of their communities further contributes to value of Maryland being home of these professional teams.

In closing, HB 896 demonstrates, through the Maryland Stadium Authority, the State's firm financial commitment to the teams as they renew their long-term agreements to stay and play in Baltimore, Maryland. For the reasons expressed in this letter, I offer my support of HB 896 and HB 897 and am available for any questions that you may have.

Thank you,



Robert J. Cecil
Retired Director of Sales, Hearst Broadcasting, WBAL Radio, Orioles Designated Hitters Club



www.evergreenadvisorsllc.com

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

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

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to register my support for 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 will provide resources to increase the already significant economic impacts of the stadiums. This legislation clearly demonstrates Maryland's financial commitment to the teams and their leagues in order for them to remain in the state for years to come.

Development of the Camden Yards Sports Complex was a game changer for stadium construction, inspired a generation of urban revitalization across the nation, and continues to serve as a catalyst for economic development for our city and state. This legislation, once passed, will continue that tradition of visionary leadership.

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

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Rick Kohr'.

Rick Kohr
Chief Executive Officer
Evergreen Advisors, LLC

*Tim Polanowski
President, Chief Executive Officer
Bay City Management Company, LLC
200 Saint Paul Place-Suite 2121
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
410-539-2700 - Fax 410-539-6890
Assistant – Lisa Holler, lisah@baycityco.com
timp@baycityco.com

Property Owner

Eric C. Thompson
AVP, Community Banking Community Business
Development Officer Maryland Region
Truist Bank
111 S. Calvert Street, Suite 2200
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
410-230-4383 – Fax 410-230-1763
Eric.Thompson@BBandT.com

***Executive Committee Members**

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

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

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

Respectfully,



Onahlea Shimunek

General Manager-Lord Baltimore Hotel
20 W. Baltimore Street 21201



LOYOLA UNIVERSITY MARYLAND

— 1852 —

The President

March 10, 2022

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

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

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

Respectfully,

Terrence M. Sawyer

PARADISE MANAGEMENT

March 10, 2022

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

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

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

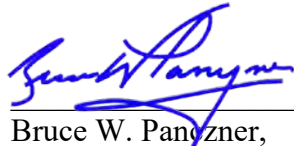
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As owner of The Centerpoint Community consisting of 392 apartments, 400 + public parking garage and 12 street level retail/commercial spaces located 3 blocks from the stadiums, keeping the stadiums current with market conditions is imperative to our business operations.

If you have any questions or require anything additional from us, please do not hesitate to contact me directly, 610-636-3807, bpanczner@paradismanagement.net.

Respectfully,



Bruce W. Pancer,
Owner

Jonathan R. Casella
Executive Vice President

CBRE, Inc.
Advisory & Transaction Services
Industrial



CBRE, Inc.
100 E Pratt Street, Suite 1700
Baltimore, MD 21202-2496

+1 410 244 3127 Tel
+1 443 386 9122 Cell

jonathan.casella@cbre.com
www.cbre.com/baltimore

March 10, 2022

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

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

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

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Casella', is written over a light gray circular background.

Jonathan Casella

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

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

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

Respectfully,



Jeffrey C. Clary

Partner

Grander Capital Partners

VISIT BALTIMORE

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

BALTIMORE.ORG

HB896

March 9, 2022

TO: Members of the Appropriations Committee
FROM: Al Hutchinson, President & CEO, Visit Baltimore
RE: **HB 896 Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization Camden Yards**

POSITION: SUPPORT

Honorable Chair McIntosh and Members of the Appropriations 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



The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

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

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

I'm 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 91 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shelonda Stokes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Shelonda" being more prominent than the last name "Stokes".

Shelonda Stokes
President
Downtown Partnership of Baltimore

DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Chair

*Mark Wasserman
Retired
410-207-3135
Markwasserman49@gmail.com

Vice Chairs

*Jeff Clary
Partner
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*Zed Smith
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Treasurer

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Private – ebrake@ellinandtucker.com

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William E. Carlson
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Shapiro Sher
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Assistant–Jenny Masche, jlm@shapirosher.com
Private - wec@shapirosher.com

***Executive Committee Members**

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Assistant-Marissa Wilhoit, mwilhoit@fearless.tech
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Private – ddzirasa@fearless.tech

James E. Edwards, Jr.
Principal
Baker Donelson
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March 11, 2022

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen St.
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Re: HB0896 – Maryland Stadium Authority – Increase of Bond Authorization – Camden Yards

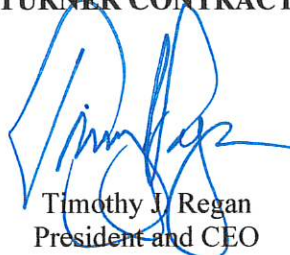
Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to register my support for 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 will provide resources to increase the already significant economic impacts of the stadiums. This legislation clearly demonstrates Maryland's financial commitment to the teams and their leagues in order for them to remain in the state for years to come.

Development of the Camden Yards Sports Complex was a game changer for stadium construction, inspired a generation of urban revitalization across the nation, and continues to serve as a catalyst for economic development for our city and state. This legislation, once passed, will continue that tradition of visionary leadership.

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

Very Truly Yours,
THE WHITING-TURNER CONTRACTING COMPANY



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