



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
ST. MARY'S COUNTY DELEGATION

Delegate Ben Barnes
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee

RE: HB 575- St. Mary's County - Bond Authority - YMCA Facility
Favorable

Dear Chairman Barnes and Members of the Committee,

HB 575 is a request for \$15 mil in bonding authority to be used in the construction of a YMCA.

The bill was introduced with the full and unanimous support of the St. Mary's County Delegation.

HB 575 represents a mutually beneficial compromise that would give the YMCA project the green light while offering some fiscal responsibility and protections for the taxpayer. The legislation requires that certain benchmarks be fulfilled before the public funds allocated to this project become accessible. These objectives were negotiated and agreed upon by all stakeholders, including both the local community and the YMCA. This measure will alleviate some financial concerns associated with a larger bill. It will also provide us enough time to evaluate if there are any additional mandated funding regulations from Annapolis or any changes in building costs due to an economic downturn that we should plan for before moving forward. This will ensure that we are making informed decisions while creating fiscal responsibility within our county budget.

The cross-file, SB 457, has passed the Senate Committee and we ask that you pass HB 575 with a FAVORABLE report.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matt Morgan".

Matt Morgan
Chair

St. Mary's County Delegation