

# SenatorBailey\_SB623\_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Jack Bailey

Position: FAV

JACK BAILEY  
*Legislative District 29*  
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

Budget & Taxation Committee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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February 18, 2025

**Senate Bill 623 – St. Mary's County – Public Facilities Bond**

Dear Chair Guzzone and Members of the Committee:

As the Senator representing St. Mary's County, I am writing in support of Senate Bill 623 – St. Mary's County – Public Facilities Bond. This local bill is based on a request by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County and authorizes the Commissioners to borrow up to \$71,000,000 to finance the construction, improvement, and development of public facilities in St. Mary's County.

This bill has passed the St. Mary's County Delegation. I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 623. Thank you for your consideration of this bill. Please contact me if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Bailey".

Senator Jack Bailey  
District 29  
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

# **LOSWA SB 623 Budget and Taxation.pdf**

Uploaded by: Randy Guy

Position: FWA

COMMISSIONERS OF  
ST. MARY'S COUNTY



James R. Guy, President  
Michael R. Alderson, Jr., Commissioner  
Eric S. Colvin, Commissioner  
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner  
Scott R. Ostrow, Commissioner

**SB 623- St. Mary's County-Public Facilities Bond**

**SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS**

February 4, 2025

The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chairman  
Budget and Taxation Committee  
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Guzzone:

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS Senate Bill 623 - St. Mary's County - Public Facilities Bond**. The requested amendment would be for bond authority of \$86,000,000, the originally requested amount.

Mindful of looming state budgetary shortfalls, uncertain prospects of sustained state and federal aid at current levels, and the potential for economic volatility across a span of not one but two years, we feel compelled to ask for borrowing authority at an amount that will leave nothing but complete confidence in the County's ability to meet its capital obligations. Expecting the County to cover a \$15,000,000 reduction in requested bond authority by shifting funds from the County's reserves will leave St. Mary's without its single most effective means of restoring a project significantly impacted by any future funding or budgetary shortfall at the state or federal level.

Additional borrowing authority in the full amount requested will leave the County, even if used in full, within the debt policy limits established by local policy and state law. Bonds will not be sold, debt will not accrue, and payments will not be made until capital projects are ready to commence. Having in advance the authority to issue the bonds necessary to see these projects to completion is sound financial management that will, among other things, support the County's recently earned AAA-bond ratings and allow it to plan with confidence necessary improvements to the County's facilities and infrastructure.

We respectfully request a favorable with amendments report on Senate Bill 623. Fully funding the request for bond authority will enable the County to move forward with its planned capital improvement projects, such as the new Sheriff's headquarters and renovations to the 55-year old Chopticon High School, in the next fiscal years, and it will leave St. Mary's County with sufficient reserves to respond dynamically to any issues that may arise in uncertain economic times.

Sincerely,  
COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY



James Randy Guy, President

CSMC/AB tr  
T:/Consent/2025/011

Cc: Senator Jack Bailey  
Delegate Matthew Morgan  
Delegate Brian Crosby  
Commissioner Mike Alderson, Jr.  
Commissioner Eric Colvin  
Commissioner Michael Hewitt  
Commissioner Scott R. Ostrow  
David Weiskopf, County Administrator  
David Yingling, Deputy County Administrator  
Buffy Giddens, County Attorney  
John Sterling Houser, Deputy County Attorney