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Joe Trauger

Tulsa, Okla.

February 14, 2025

The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary Chair, Ways and Means Committee Maryland House of Delegates 101 House Office Building 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401

On behalf of the National Club Association, I am writing to register our opposition to H.B. 874, which would repeal the property tax special use assessment for country clubs and golf courses. As you know, golf plays a significant role in Maryland's economy, tourism, and community development.

Golf is more than just a sport in Maryland —it is a key economic driver, generating millions in revenue, supporting thousands of jobs, and attracting visitors to our world-class courses. Maryland's golf industry contributes significantly through tourism, local business growth, and charitable fundraising efforts. From professional tournaments to municipal and private courses, golf provides recreational opportunities for residents of all ages while fostering environmental stewardship through sustainable course management.

As the Ways and Means Committee considers matters impacting our state's economy and recreational opportunities, I urge you to recognize and support initiatives that promote and sustain Maryland's golf industry and oppose H.B. 874. Your leadership can help ensure that golf continues to thrive as a valuable asset to our communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further.

Best regards,

Joe Trauger President & CEO

National Club Association