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**Written Testimony to the Maryland Senate Finance Committee
SB 883 – Economic Development - Maryland Stadium Authority –
Carroll Park Soccer Stadium and Facility
March 5, 2026**

UNFAVORABLE

Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes and Members of the Committee: AFT Maryland opposes SB 883. To be clear, our organization is not opposed to the development of a soccer stadium and facility at Carroll Park. However, we are strictly opposed to the mechanism used to fund it.

As currently written, this bill creates a new provision, (b)(2)(iii), which effectively skims money off the top of state revenues that are legally intended for our schools. Specifically, it redirects funds from sports wagering, revenue that was promised for the Blueprint for Maryland's Future and sends it instead to the Carroll Park Soccer Stadium and Facility Fund.

Every dollar diverted by this new provision is a dollar taken from the Blueprint. Until this bill is amended to ensure that no funds intended for the Blueprint are used for this project, AFT Maryland respectfully requests an unfavorable report on SB 883.