



MARYLAND
Chamber of Commerce

LEGISLATIVE POSITION:

Favorable

House Bill 897

Sports Entertainment Facilities Act of 2022

House Appropriations Committee

Tuesday, March 15, 2022

Dear Chairman McIntosh and Members of the Committee:

Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce is the leading voice for business in Maryland. We are a statewide coalition of more than 5,500 members and federated partners working to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic recovery and growth for Maryland businesses, employees, and families.

HB 897 would create a fund for improvements to be made for the Maryland minor league baseball ballparks throughout the state. These improvements would encourage minor league players currently playing in the State to stay when moving on to the major league.

When Maryland's teams do well, the businesses around them also do well thanks to increased foot traffic and revenue. By keeping players in Maryland, we foster a deeper appreciation for our State which will benefit our teams by increasing morale. This will also attract businesses to the areas surrounding the ballparks which will increase job opportunities. HB 896 is a great example of government policy that promotes and fosters business development.

For these reasons, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests a **Favorable Report** on House Bill 897.

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