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BILL NO.: SB 804

TITLE: Northwest Baltimore County Sports Tourism Facility – Feasibility Study

SPONSOR: Senator Brooks

COMMITTEE: Finance

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 27, 2024

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 804 – Northwest Baltimore County Sports Tourism Facility – Feasibility Study. This legislation would allow the Maryland Stadium Authority to conduct a feasibility study for opening and operating a sports facility in Northwest Baltimore County.

Baltimore County supports the creation of this study. The creation of a Sports Facility in the Northwest region of the County will provide for filling both the recreational needs of the region and attracting tourists to the State of Maryland and Baltimore County. Sports destinations similar to the one that would be studied under this legislation bring billions of dollars to their immediate communities.

Baltimore County is a premier destination for world class events. In the past, we have been the host jurisdiction for signature events such as the BMW Championship (returning in 2025) and the Maryland Cycling Classic, an event that brings in cyclists from all over the world and puts Baltimore County on an international stage. An additional sporting venue, as outlined in SB 804, would further leverage the hotel assets and amenities that the County has to offer visitors.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 804 from the Senate Finance Committee. For more information, please contact Jenn Aiosa, Director of Government Affairs at jaiosa@baltimorecountymd.gov.