

Chapter 616

(House Bill 741)

AN ACT concerning

Northwest Baltimore County Sports Tourism Facility – Feasibility Study

FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Stadium Authority to conduct a certain feasibility study for developing, establishing, and operating a certain sports tourism facility in northwest Baltimore County; and generally relating to a feasibility study for a sports tourism facility in northwest Baltimore County.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That:

(a) The Maryland Stadium Authority shall study and make recommendations on the feasibility of establishing and operating a sports tourism facility at Reisterstown Regional Park in northwest Baltimore County.

(b) In conducting the study required under subsection (a) of this section, the Maryland Stadium Authority shall:

(1) identify available and potential federal, State, and local funding sources for the project;

(2) identify the infrastructure needs, capital costs, and operating costs associated with:

(i) construction of the land located at 401 Mitchell Drive, Reisterstown, MD 21136;

(ii) enhancement and development of the existing indoor ice hockey rink, indoor soccer fields, and outdoor playing fields;

(iii) planning and construction of potential parks, open spaces, facilities, greenways, trails, and other amenities; and

(iv) recreational programs at the new and enhanced facilities;

(3) examine the economic impact on the local and regional economy, including:

(i) potential employment opportunities at the sports tourism facility and in the surrounding area;

(ii) enhanced tax revenues;

- (iii) the effect on local property values;
 - (iv) potential market expansions within the sports tourism industry and related industries; and
 - (v) the overall economic vitality of the area; and
- (4) consult with the following governments, stakeholders, and entities:
- (i) the Maryland Department of Commerce;
 - (ii) the Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development;
 - (iii) the Baltimore County Revenue Authority;
 - (iv) the Maryland Transit Administration; and
 - (v) the Maryland Sports Commission.

(c) On or before ~~July 1~~ December 31, 2025, the Maryland Stadium Authority shall submit a final report of its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the Senate Finance Committee, the House Economic Matters Committee, and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2024. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and ~~1 month~~ 7 months and, at the end of ~~July 31, 2025~~ January 31, 2026, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, May 9, 2024.