

CHAPTER 6

(Senate Bill 719)

AN ACT concerning

Professional Baseball – Camden Yards

FOR the purpose of ~~prohibiting~~ requiring the Maryland Stadium Authority to prohibit a major league professional baseball team from playing baseball in ~~a~~ its Camden Yards stadium in a certain area under certain circumstances; providing for the termination of this Act; and making this Act an emergency measure.

BY adding to

Article – Financial Institutions

Section 13-723

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1992 Replacement Volume and 1994 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, The Maryland Stadium Authority, an instrumentality of the State, is the owner of Oriole Park at Camden Yards baseball stadium; and

WHEREAS, The stadium has involved a significant expenditure of State funds; and

WHEREAS, Significant debt arising from construction of the stadium is still outstanding and reduction of the debt is dependent on public use of the stadium; and

~~WHEREAS, The economy of Baltimore City suffered over \$80 million in losses in tourism and related spending in the six weeks in which the major league professional baseball season was suspended in 1994; and~~

WHEREAS, A recent poll of Baltimore Orioles' season-ticket holders indicates that the overwhelming majority of season-ticket holders oppose the idea of the Orioles using replacement players instead of the current Orioles, and that the overwhelming majority of season-ticket holders believe that major league professional baseball should cancel the upcoming season rather than play with replacement players if fewer than 75% of the team's baseball players were baseball players on a major league professional baseball team in 1994; and

WHEREAS, The poll also indicates that the overwhelming majority of season-ticket holders would have little or no interest in major league professional baseball games with replacement players if fewer than 75% of the team's baseball players were baseball players on a major league professional baseball team in 1994; and

WHEREAS, An extended strike or the use of replacement players would result in a loss of \$300,000 to the University of Maryland from game-related parking at its Baltimore campus garages; and