

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That new Sections 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 152A, 152B, 152C, 152D, 152E, 152F, 152G, 152H, ~~152I, 152J, and 152K~~ be and they are hereby added to Article 41 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume), title "Governor—Executive and Administrative Departments," subtitle "~~Department of Legislative Reference,~~" to follow immediately after Section 140 thereof, to be under the new subtitle "Maryland Sports Complex Authority," and to read as follows:*

**[DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE]**

**MARYLAND SPORTS COMPLEX AUTHORITY**

141. *Short title.*

*This subtitle shall be known as the "Maryland Sports Complex Authority Act."*

142. *Declaration of legislative findings and policy.*

*After much study by the State of Maryland, the General Assembly finds that professional sports add to the economy, the culture and the vitality of Baltimore City, the Greater Baltimore Region and the entire State of Maryland. In addition to the revenues directly produced from activities at the stadium in which athletic contests and events are held, there are additional revenues derived, directly and indirectly, from such activities. Professional sports stimulate tourism and familiarize people from all parts of the country with the advantages of the Baltimore metropolitan area and with Maryland generally. Professional sports stimulate business and provide extensive employment opportunities, not merely for the athletes and personnel directly involved in the sports enterprise but for thousands of other Marylanders. Professional sports also provide the citizens of this State with a great deal of enjoyment and recreation in watching athletic contests. Because of these public benefits, it is the policy of the State of Maryland to encourage and assist the retention of professional sports activities in the Baltimore metropolitan area, and to authorize the operators, owners or lessees of professional athletic facilities to have the advantage of revenues in the environs of such athletic sites to help defray the costs of constructing, maintaining and operating the facilities. In order to implement this policy, it is in the public interest to establish a State agency, to be known as the "Maryland Sports Complex Authority," to acquire and/or construct athletic facilities and other revenue producing facilities in the vicinity thereof, and to regulate the same.*

143. *Definitions.*

*(a) As used in this subtitle, the words and terms listed in this ~~Section~~ SECTION shall have the meanings indicated unless the context indicates another or different meaning or intent:*

*(b) "Authority" means the Maryland Sports Complex Authority created by Section 144 of this Article or any board, body, commission, agency or officer succeeding to the principal functions thereof.*

*(c) "Facility" or "facilities" shall include stadiums, arenas or other areas for the holding of athletic contests, practice fields or*