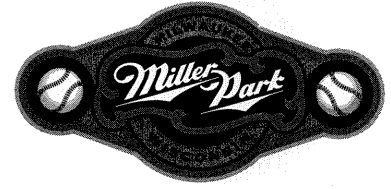


Southeast Wisconsin Professional Baseball Park District



May 16, 1997

State Rep. John Dobyms
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952

File SB 105
Date 5/20/97

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Dear Rep. Dobyms,

On behalf of the Southeast Wisconsin Professional Baseball Park District, I am writing to ask your support for Senate Bill 105, as it is currently amended, when it is considered by the Assembly Committee on Government Operations on May 21st.

The District believes the compromise measure approved by the State Senate on May 13th is in the best interest of the taxpayers of the five-county District and the State of Wisconsin. It will allow the District to build Miller Park as one of the finest sports and entertainment facilities in the country.

The current version of Senate Bill 105 ensures that the District will continue to work cooperatively with the State Legislature and other state agencies. It provides increased accountability, while preserving the District's ability to build Miller Park on-time, on-budget, and within the scope of the original legislation creating the District.

Besides removing the moral obligation of the state from District bonding, the amended version of Senate Bill 105 creates a regular reporting procedure by the District to the Legislature on items related to the construction of Miller Park. The bill also provides for the establishment of a prudent and accountable estimated sunset date for the District sales tax.

Once again, I want to emphasize the District's support for the version of Senate Bill 105 that is currently before you and was passed by the Senate. This compromise is beneficial to the citizens of the District and Wisconsin. It will allow for a successful Opening Day for Miller Park in the year 2000.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Duckett, P.E., R.L.S.

Executive Director

CC: District Board
State Rep. Steven Foti
State Rep. Walter Kunicki



Michael (Mickey)


State Representative
58th Assembly District

Rep. Dobyms
Rm. 10 West

Committee Chair: Ways and Means

Committee Member:
Criminal Justice and Corrections
Education
Highways and Transportation
Urban and Local Affairs

TO: Members of the Government Operations Committee

FROM: Rep. Mickey Lehman 

IN RE: Senate Bill 105

DATE: May 20, 1997

Just a note to hopefully encourage you to pass Senate Bill 105 out of your Committee as it was passed in the Senate.

I feel the bill, in the form that was approved by the Senate, does the following three things:


- 1) requires more accountability by the Board with quarterly, full disclosure reports;
- 2) allows for establishment of a tax retirement date based on firm, factual figures; and
- 3) removes the State's moral obligation from any bonding done by the Board, thereby protecting the 72 counties.

I know this is a difficult issue for many members. However, the Board is committed to working with the Legislature to keep lawmakers abreast of all the Board's activities in securing a quality-built, multipurpose facility.

Hopefully I can count on your support in bringing this bill forward, unamended by the Assembly.

Office: P.O. Box 8952, State Capitol, Madison, WI 53708-8952 • (608) 267-2367 • Toll-Free Legislative Hotline: (800) 362-9472
Home: 1317 Honeysuckle Road, Hartford, WI 53027 • (414) 673-7979

58th District Includes - CITIES: Cedarburg, Hartford and West Bend (Wards 23-29); VILLAGES: Jackson, Neosho and Slinger;
TOWNS: Addison, Cedarburg (wards 1,2,3,6, and 7), Hartford, Jackson, Polk (wards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8), Rubican, Trenton and West Bend


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State of Wisconsin \ LEGISLATIVE AUDIT BUREAU

May 20, 1997

DALE CATTANACH
STATE AUDITOR
SUITE 402
131 WEST WILSON STREET
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53703
(608) 256-2818
FAX (608) 257-0410

Representative Robert Ziegelbauer
Room 207 North
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

MAY 20 1997

Dear Representative Ziegelbauer:

It is our understanding, based on discussions with Representative Michael Lehman, that you are interested in modifying the reporting requirements imposed on the Southeast Wisconsin Professional Baseball Park District board under 1997 Senate Bill 105. In particular, you would like to add the requirement that the reports should reconcile actual spending against the \$250 million construction cap mentioned in the Memorandum of Understanding entered into by the State of Wisconsin, Milwaukee County, City of Milwaukee, and the Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club, Inc. Actual spending would be defined as construction costs, purchase commitments, and lease commitments valued according to the Financial Accounting Standards Board rules. Representative Lehman has requested our opinion as to whether it would be possible to accomplish your goal without an amendment to 1997 Senate Bill 105 designed to clarify further the reporting requirements.

As currently written, 1997 Senate Bill 105 already requires the District board submit the information necessary to complete the type of calculation in which you are interested, including information about all capital expenditures, operating expenditures, and expenditures for the lease of capital and operating items, as well as a listing of outstanding financial obligations under contracts entered into by the District. In addition, the legislation requires the Audit Bureau prescribe the form of the quarterly reports to be submitted by the District board. Therefore, it is within our authority to structure the form to ensure that the District's total construction project expenditures, including expenditures incurred through leasing, are summed for comparison against the construction cap mentioned in the Memorandum of Understanding.

Given our authority and the fact that the necessary information will be provided, it is our intent to structure the form to ensure that it reflects the total cost of constructing the stadium project in a format that is as easy to understand as possible if 1997 Senate Bill 105 is enacted. We will structure the form in this manner regardless of whether the reporting requirements are clarified through an amendment to 1997 Senate Bill 105.

Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dale Cattanaach
State Auditor

DC/JN/aw

cc: Representative Michael Lehman



STATE SENATOR
LYNN ADELMAN

SENATE OFFICE: STATE CAPITOL, P.O. BOX 7882, MADISON, WI 53707-7882 PHONE: 800/334-1442
RESIDENCE: 33725 JANESVILLE DRIVE, MUKWONAGO, WI 53149 PHONE: 414/662-3864

DETAILS OF STADIUM LEGISLATION

The substitute amendment to Senate Bill 105 will do three things:

- 1) Eliminate the ability of the stadium district board to issue bonds backed by the moral obligation of the state;
- 2) Require the stadium district board to make a full disclosure statement on a quarterly basis to the co-chairs of the legislature's Joint Committee on Finance on a form prepared by the Legislative Audit Bureau so that the public has complete knowledge of all financial decisions made by the board; and
- 3) Require the stadium district board, beginning one year after the opening of the stadium, to submit to the co-chairs of the legislature's Joint Committee on Finance, the secretary of the Department of Administration, and the secretary of the Department of Revenue an annual estimate based on the best available data of the date on which the sales tax will sunset.

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