

As you may know, Board President John Farrell, Vice President Jennifer Jushchuk and I recently returned from several very busy days of meeting with legislators in Richmond on behalf of the Reston community. I wanted to provide you with some important updates on the casino bill in Richmond.

I want to thank all of you who reached out in response to our previous message. We heard from quite a few of you on both sides of the casino issue, and we genuinely appreciate hearing all sides and viewpoints from our membership. I also want to thank those of you who reached out to your elected representatives; several mentioned that they had received messages from residents in Reston, and it's clear your messages had an impact. Our message of opposition was heard, thanks to your work and the leadership of Reston's own elected officials, Delegate Karen Keys-Gamarra and Senator Jennifer Boysko.

As we were concluding our meetings in Richmond, we received word that [Senate Bill 675](#) was officially introduced by Senator David Marsden, and that as a direct result of our advocacy, he intends to exclude Reston as a possible location for a future casino. This is due significantly to the outreach from RA and its membership, and we thank Senator Marsden for meeting with us, listening to the concerns of our community and taking action that addresses those concerns. We are confident that Senator Marsden will continue to work with us to ensure Reston is not an option in the bill.

As SB675 moves into the Senate General Laws committee [next week](#), we will continue to monitor the situation to ensure Reston is excluded. We will be watching closely as the bill is considered in General Laws and will update you if additional action needs to be taken.

This week's advocacy and the news that Senator Marsden intends to remove Reston from consideration is a positive turn and one that shows our legislators are indeed listening to the views of the community. We thank him for his thoughtful engagement and thank all of you for your messages and your continued advocacy for Reston.