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House Bill 1194

<u>Charter and Code Home Rule Counties – County Property Leases-</u> <u>Notice Exemptions</u>

Why is the Bill being introduced?

The bill is being introduced to amend Section 10-312(f) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland entitled "County property; housing projects; franchise; required notice," as it relates to leases.

What does the Bill do?

This bill authorizes a charter or code home rule county to enter into a specified property lease Agreement without giving notice if the lease (1) is not renewable and (2) has a term of five years or less.

Why is it important to pass now?

Under current law, before a charter or code home rule county makes any disposition, grant, or lease of county property, the county shall publish notice of the disposition, grant, or lease once a week for 3 successive weeks in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the county and shall include the terms and the compensation to be received and give opportunity for objections. By passing HB1194, it will alleviate the possibility and concerns of the potential loss of a tenant due to the lengthy advertising process and the costs to advertise.