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Budget and Taxation Committee

Health and Human Services
Subcommittee

Joint Committees
Administrative, Executive,
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Children, Youth, and Families

Fair Practices and
State Personnel Oversight

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Testimony for Senate Bill 1003
Legal Advertisement or Legal Notice – Publication in Newspaper or Newspaper in General
Circulation – Online Newspapers
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
March 24, 2022

Chairman Pinsky and Honorable Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present **Senate Bill 1003: Legal Advertisement or Legal Notice – Publication in Newspaper or Newspaper in General Circulation – Online Newspapers.**

Senate Bill 1003 is a request from Dorchester County and is a response to the evolving landscape of print media. Dorchester County currently has only two news publications that qualify under section 1-113 of the General Provisions Article as a “newspaper of general circulation.” In recent years, these papers have limited their print publications to only certain days of the week. If this trend were to continue, there are concerns that County may be unable to utilize either newspaper to publish legal notices.

Senate Bill 1003 alters the definition of “newspaper in general circulation” to include a publication “that is offered either in a print formation or through a dedicated website.” This bill will allow counties to meet the legal notice requirement, without delays due to limited publications or, lack thereof, of print newspapers.

Thank you for your consideration and I respectfully ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 1003.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Addie C. Eckardt'.

Senator Addie C. Eckardt