

Montgomery County Office of Intergovernmental Relations

ROCKVILLE: 240-777-6550

ANNAPOLIS: 240-777-8270

BILL NO: HB 424

DATE: March 28, 2024

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Delegation CONTACT PERSON: Leslie Frey ASSIGNED TO: Education, Energy, and the Environment POSITION: FAVORABLE

Montgomery County – Housing Opportunities Commission – Alterations MC 3-24

House Bill 424 removes requirements that the Montgomery County Housing Opportunities Commission: (1) hold a public hearing on any assisted family housing it proposes; (2) report in writing the findings and conclusions from the hearing; and (3) give advanced notice of the hearing by placing advertisements in two newspapers of general circulation in the County. The bill also removes the requirement that a summary of the Housing Opportunities Commission's annual financial report be published in at least two newspapers of general circulation in the County.

Under the bill, assisted-family housing means units of affordable housing which consist of privately or governmentally owned rental units for which the owners receive subsidies from the federal, State, or local government in the form of rent supplements or mortgage interest subsidies, except units designated for occupancy by persons 62 years old or older, and units which benefit from tax-exempt financing but receive no other government subsidy.

According to the Housing Opportunities Commission, the bill would remove burdens placed on the Housing Opportunities Commission which are not placed on similar housing developments that do not have affordable housing units. Therefore, Montgomery County supports House Bill 424 and respectfully urges the committee to issue a favorable report.