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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB 589 Dorchester County - County Property Leases - Notice Exemptions

Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

What This Bill Does

This bill would allow Dorchester County to enter into a lease, for a term of five (5) years or less, without providing a published notice for three successive weeks in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the County. These types of leases will be added to an open session agenda for the County Council's review and consideration, so the public will still have the time and opportunity to comment.

HB 589 would amend 10-312(f) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland entitled "County property; housing projects; franchise; required notice," prior to the leasing of County property, a notice shall be published for three successive weeks in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the County.

Why We Need This Bill

The County Council is asking for this change to omit the increasing advertising fees and avoid the lengthy process of county property leasing.

We respectfully ask the Committee for a favorable vote on **HB 596**.