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The Honorable J. Sandy Bartlett,, Chair
House Office Building, Room 101
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Support (FAV) – HB 174 – Motor Vehicles and Marine Vessels – Transfer on Death Designation

Dear Chair Bartlett and Committee Members:

My name is Alexis Burrell-Rohde. I am the Register of Wills for Baltimore County and am testifying in favor of House Bill 174.

Authorizing individuals whether they own a boat or automobile solely or jointly, to name a beneficiary would be a great benefit for the public. I see families routinely needing to open small estates for the sole purpose of transferring title to a car or boat. These estates are nearly always small estates, i.e. estates under \$50,000. While we are lucky in Maryland that our probate process is easy when compared to other states, it would certainly be much easier to avoid having a probate estate altogether. This would also increase the efficacy of our office and as we do not charge a probate fee for small, it would not impact fee collection. HB 174 is a good-government bill that will save the State and the public time and money with very little downside.

I respectfully recommend a favorable report on House Bill 174 and appreciate the Committee's thoughtful attention.

Best regards,

Alexis Burrell-Rohde

Alexis Burrell-Rohde
Register of Wills
Baltimore County