

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2023 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader - Revised**

Senate Bill 524

(Senator McKay)

Education, Energy, and the Environment

Environment and Transportation

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**Garrett County - Board of County Commissioners - Meetings**

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This bill requires the Garrett County Commissioners to hold public meetings in person or through live video streaming at least twice a month. The bill also prohibits the Garrett County Commissioners from meeting solely through live video streaming for more than two consecutive meetings in the absence of a formal declaration of a state of emergency.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Altering the meeting times of the Garrett County Commissioners will not affect county finances.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The Garrett County Commissioners are required to hold public meetings weekly. Additionally, the commissioners must provide notice of the dates and times of all public meetings, including any schedule changes or cancellations. The commissioners must also schedule or announce administrative sessions to review matters as specified. Each commissioner is required to attend scheduled or planned meetings of an appointed commission, board, or committee.

Garrett County has three county commissioners; each elected to serve a four-year term.

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## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

## **Designated Cross File: HB 671 (Delegate Hinebaugh) - Environment and Transportation.**

**Information Source(s):** Garrett County; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 22, 2023  
rh/hlb Third Reader - March 22, 2023  
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