

CHRISTOPHER T. ADAMS  
*Legislative District 37B*  
Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot,  
and Wicomico Counties

Economic Matters Committee



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**HB79**

**Legal Advertisement or Legal Notice-Publication in Newspaper or Newspaper in  
General Circulation – Online Newspapers**

Chair Pendergrass and Members of the Committee:

House Bill 79 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 the County may be unable to utilize either newspaper to publish legal notices.

House Bill 79 alters the definition of “newspaper in general circulation” to include a publication “that is offered either in 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 the opportunity to present House Bill 79 and I respectfully ask for a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Adams', written over a horizontal line.

Christopher T. Adams