

BENJAMIN BROOKS
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Baltimore County

Education, Energy, and the
Environment Committee



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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB443
Real Estate Brokers, Salespersons and Associate Brokers –
Continuing Education Courses - Alterations

Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
February 21, 2023

Chair Feldman, Vice-Chair Kagan, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you on SB443, Real Estate Brokers, Salespersons, and Associate Brokers – Continuing Education Courses -Alterations. The purpose of this bill is to establish a separate continuing education requirement for a real estate broker, real estate salesperson, or associate real estate broker licensee who has been issued an initial license by the State Real Estate Commission.

All real estate licensees must take a 60-hour pre-licensing course and pass a state exam in order receive a real estate license. Once they have a real estate license, they are required to take continuing education classes to be eligible to renew their license every two years.

SB443 creates a more practical continuing education requirement for new real estate licensees during their first licensing period. After that, the licensees would take the same licensing classes as the rest of the licensee base.

After taking 60 hours of pre-licensing exams and passing tests on national and state content, many new licensees have never been exposed to or had the opportunity to read a real-estate contract, or experience making an escrow account deposit. The new requirement will provide an opportunity to further educate new licensees on the contract, advertising rules, handling of escrow money, landlord tenant law, financing and the myriad of issues that arise when clients are looking at property.

For these reasons I am requesting a favorable report on SB614.

With kindest regards,

Benjamin T. Brooks

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