



TO: Senate Budget & Taxation Committee  
FROM: Garrett County Chamber of Commerce  
DATE: February 18, 2025

RE: **SUPPORT SENATE BILL 639** – Garrett County – Bids and Contracts –  
Advertisement Exceptions

The Garrett County Chamber of Commerce is the largest professional business association in Garrett County with nearly 500 members representing every industry in the region. The Chamber was formed to organize, support, and represent Garrett County's business community in advancing common interests and promote our county's hospitality and recreation industries by attracting visitors through comprehensive marketing.

As introduced, Senate Bill 639, would allow the Garrett County Board of County Commissioners or County personnel to enter into a purchase or work project contract on an as-needed basis irrespective of contract amount without having to advertise for bids. It would also allow the Commissioners and County to enter into a contract to purchase one or more vehicles for an amount up to \$100,000 without advertising for bids.

The Chamber sees this as a commonsense approach and a benefit to area businesses when it comes to local government contracts and the need to fulfill county needs expeditiously.

For these reasons, the Garrett County Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests a **favorable report** on **SB639**.

