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Position: FAV

MIKE McKay

Legislative District 1
Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties

Judicial Proceedings Committee

Executive Nominations Committee

Joint Committees

Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review

Children, Youth, and Families

Program Open Space and Agricultural Land Preservation



Annapolis Office
James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 416
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3565 · 301-858-3565
800-492-7122 Ext. 3565
Mike.McKay@senate.state.md.us

Cumberland Office 100N Mechanic Street Cumberland, Maryland 21502 240-362-7040

Williamsport Office 2N Conococheque Street Williamsport Town Hall Williamsport, Maryland

Senate Bill 638 – Department of Natural Resources – Savage River Lodge – Hotel Rental Surcharge

January 22, 2025

Dear Chairman Guzzone, Vice Chairman Rosapepe, and Members of the Committee,

This is a simple bill that would allow for certain exceptions for advertising bids and contracts for Garrett County to be made if the good or services procured are not on a regular basis but on an as-needed basis.

I thank you for your time and I urge a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Senator Mike McKay

Representing the Appalachia Region of Maryland Serving Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties

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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**.

