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*Subcommittees*

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Health Occupations and  
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
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**Testimony**

**HB563 Dorchester County- County Property- County Property Leases- Notice Exemptions**

**Environment and Transportation Committee**

**Tuesday, February 18, 2025**

This bill would allow Dorchester County to enter into a lease, for a term of five (5) years or less, without providing a published notice for three successive weeks in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the County. These types of leases will be added to an open session agenda for the County Council's review and consideration, so the public will still have the time and opportunity to comment.

**HB563** would amend 10-312(f) of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland entitled "County property; housing projects; franchise; required notice," prior to the leasing of County property, a notice shall be published for three successive weeks in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the County.

**Why We Need This Bill**

The County Council is asking for this change to omit the increasing advertising fees and avoid the lengthy process of county property leasing.

**We respectfully ask the Committee for a favorable vote on HB563**