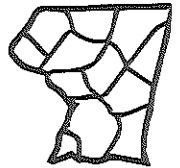




Paul G. Zimmermann
Register

OFFICE OF THE
REGISTER OF WILLS

FOR CARROLL COUNTY
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February 10, 2025

The Honorable Luke Clippinger
House Judiciary Committee
100 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

FAVORABLE SUPPORT - HB 623

RE: House Bill 623 – Estates and Trusts – Estate Administration – Publication of Notice

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am writing in **support of House Bill 623**. As Register of Wills for Carroll County, I ask for your favorable committee report for this important legislation for the following reasons:

- When the Notice is sent to the newspaper, the Notice is only published one day a week for one, two or three weeks only, depending on the Notice. If the Notice is published on our website, the Notice stays up from the day that we publish, usually the day the Estate is open, and it stays up on our website, seven days a week, 24 hours a day, well past the three insertions spread out three weeks (once a week). Someone could miss the day the newspaper publishes but they will always be able to find it on our website, well after the first day of publication.
- The Carroll County Times and the Daily Record both charge the Estate for publication. The Times requires payment up front. If payment hasn't been made, and the Notice hasn't been published in the paper when it was supposed to be, we have to call the Personal Representative to advise them to pay so the Notice can be published. Publication on our website is at no cost.
- If a relative isn't sure of the County where the person died, instead of checking with multiple counties, they have one place to check, our website.

Thank you for your time and attention. I will be attending the hearing if anyone has additional questions. I respectfully urge a favorable report on **HB 623**.

Sincerely,

Paul G. Zimmermann
Carroll County Register of Wills