

1/30/2026

HB1221



Ocean City, Maryland
Chamber of Commerce

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**TESTIMONY OFFERED ON BEHALF OF
THE GREATER OCEAN CITY MARYLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS TO:
HB1221 - Public Safety-Short-Term Rental Units-Fire Safety
(Jillian & Lindsay Wiener Short-Term Rental Fire Safety Act)**

**Before:
House Economic Matters Committee
Hearing: 3/5/2026 at 2:00 PM**

The Greater Ocean City Chamber of Commerce, representing more than 700 regional businesses and job creators, **SUPPORTS WITH AMENDMENTS, House Bill HB1221, the Jillian & Lindsay Wiener Short-Term Rental Fire Safety Act of 2026.**

This legislation requires certain short-term rental units to post certain evacuation diagrams and certain emergency telephone numbers in the unit and to provide certain fire extinguishers and smoke alarms in the unit; requires a certain short-term rental host to replace a smoke alarm under certain circumstances; and requires certain booking services to notify certain short-term rental hosts about certain fire safety requirements.

Recommended amendments include aligning the bill with the current State Fire Prevention Code, which allows each jurisdiction to determine the frequency of inspections for short-term rentals. In addition, **HB1221** calls for interconnected smoke detectors that are wired together. Wireless smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors should also be permitted to accommodate older buildings; said detectors provide additional options at nominal costs and further the safety goal of this bill.

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The Greater Ocean City Chamber respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE REPORT, WITH AMENDMENTS to HB1221.** Please feel free to contact the Chamber directly on 410-213-0144 should you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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