



## **POSTION STATEMENT**

**Bill:** HB10/SB64 Legal Advertisement or Legal Notice - Publication in Newspaper or Newspaper in General Circulation - Digital Newspapers

**Position:** Support

**Date:** January 28, 2026

**Contact:** Debra Borden, General Counsel

Jordan Baucum Colbert, Senior Government Affairs Analyst

Dear Chair J. Sandy Bartlett,

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (“M-NCPPC” or the “Commission”) voted to support this bill.

**What this Bill Does.** Establishing certain requirements for the print or digital publication of legal advertisements and notices in counties and municipalities in the State; requiring digital publications that publish a legal advertisement or notice to maintain an archive of all published legal advertisements and legal notices that shall be available to the public; and requiring digital publications that publish a legal advertisement or notice to employ at least one employee whose duties include reporting, writing, or editing local news and information.

**M-NCPPC Supports Expanded Community Notification.** M-NCPPC values transparent and deep engagement with communities during the planning process. Part of this includes noticing Planning Board public hearings in widely distributed and viewed publications. M-NCPPC believes HB10 modernizes Maryland’s legal notice requirements by formally recognizing digital newspapers and establishing standards to ensure transparency and legitimacy. For M-NCPPC, the bill offers the potential for greater flexibility and improved public notification.

Therefore, we urge the committee to give this bill a favorable vote.