

HOUSE BILL 555

L3

0lr1318
CF 0lr1678

By: **Delegates Reznik, Barkley, Barve, Feldman, Gilchrist, Howard, Kaiser, Oaks, Rice, and Riley**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2010

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Political Subdivisions – Electronic Legal Notices Option**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a county or municipality to satisfy a requirement to
4 publish certain legal notices in a newspaper of general circulation by posting the
5 notices on its website; requiring a county or municipality that chooses to post
6 notices on the Internet to publish a certain notice in a newspaper of general
7 circulation in the county or municipality and to offer a certain mail service to
8 provide paper copies of notices; requiring the mail service to be paid for by the
9 county or municipality for a certain period; authorizing a county or municipality
10 to charge a certain fee for the mail service after a certain period; providing that
11 the mail subscription shall be for a certain period of time and may be renewed;
12 and generally relating to publication of legal notices by counties and
13 municipalities.

14 BY adding to

15 Article 24 – Political Subdivisions – Miscellaneous Provisions
16 Section 1–111
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

20 Article – Tax – Property
21 Section 6–308(b)(2) and (c)
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

24 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
25 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

26 **Article 24 – Political Subdivisions – Miscellaneous Provisions**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 1-111.

2 (A) (1) A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY MAY SATISFY A REQUIREMENT
3 IN THE CODE TO PUBLISH LEGAL NOTICE IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL
4 CIRCULATION BY POSTING THE LEGAL NOTICE ON THE COUNTY'S OR
5 MUNICIPALITY'S WEBSITE.

6 (2) A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY MAY USE THE
7 INTERNET-POSTING OPTION FOR ANY ACTION, INCLUDING:

8 (I) AN ANNEXATION;

9 (II) A CHARTER AMENDMENT;

10 (III) THE REPEAL OF A MUNICIPAL CHARTER;

11 (IV) A CONSTANT YIELD TAX RATE HEARING;

12 (V) THE CREATION OR AMENDMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE
13 PLAN; OR

14 (VI) THE CREATION OR AMENDMENT OF A ZONING
15 REGULATION.

16 (B) A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY THAT CHOOSES TO BEGIN SATISFYING
17 A PUBLICATION REQUIREMENT BY POSTING NOTICES ON THE INTERNET SHALL:

18 (1) AT LEAST 1 MONTH BEFORE THE FIRST INTERNET POSTING,
19 PUBLISH A NOTICE IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE COUNTY
20 OR MUNICIPALITY TO:

21 (I) INFORM THE PUBLIC OF THE INTENT TO POST LEGAL
22 NOTICES ON ITS WEBSITE; AND

23 (II) SPECIFY WHICH TYPES OF NOTICES THAT WILL BE
24 POSTED ON ITS WEBSITE INSTEAD OF IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL
25 CIRCULATION; AND

26 (2) OFFER A MAIL SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE TO PROVIDE PAPER
27 COPIES OF THE LEGAL NOTICES TO RESIDENTS OF THE COUNTY OR
28 MUNICIPALITY.

1 AUTHORITY'S WEBSITE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 24,
2 § 1-111.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2010.