

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

Senate Bill 53

(Senator Simonaire, *et al.*)

Finance

Government, Labor, and Elections

**Maryland Port Administration - Acquisition of Land in Anne Arundel County -
Notice of Public Hearing**

This bill requires the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) to provide written notice to the Anne Arundel County Delegation to the General Assembly when it requests written approval from Anne Arundel County to acquire an interest in land or improvements on land in the county.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: MPA can notify the Anne Arundel County Delegation using existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect Anne Arundel County finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Subject to specified requirements and prohibitions, MPA may acquire in its own name, by purchase or by condemnation, any property, including any public land, land lying under water, or riparian right, necessary or convenient to construct or operate any project. However, in order to purchase or condemn any property located in any political subdivision of the State (*i.e.*, a county, Baltimore City, or a municipality), MPA must make a written request for approval to the appropriate local government. A request is deemed to have been approved unless MPA is notified in writing within 90 days that the request has not been approved.

Specific to Anne Arundel County, MPA may not acquire any interest in land or improvements on land in the county without the prior approval of Anne Arundel County, given after a public hearing.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: HB 354 (Delegate Kipke, *et al.*) - Government, Labor, and Elections.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Transportation; Anne Arundel County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 3, 2026
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