

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 174

(Caroline County Delegation)

Environmental Matters

Judicial Proceedings

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Caroline County - Sheriff - Salary

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This bill increases the salary of the Caroline County Sheriff from \$55,000 to \$65,000 beginning with the next term of office in November 2006.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Caroline County expenditures would increase by approximately \$7,900 beginning in FY 2007 and by approximately \$11,800 each year thereafter for salary and fringe benefits. Revenues would not be affected.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** The Caroline County Sheriff is paid an annual salary of \$55,000. Salary adjustments for constitutional officers take effect at the beginning of the next term of office, which for the Caroline County Sheriff begins in November 2006.

**Background:** Chapter 378 of 2000 increased the sheriff's salary from \$45,000 to \$49,500. Additionally, the salary was increased from \$49,500 to \$55,000 by Chapter 346 of 2002. Both of these salary adjustments took effect in November 2002, when the Caroline County Sheriff's current term of office began.

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**Exhibit 1**  
**Current Annual Salaries for Sheriffs of Eastern Shore Counties**

<u>County</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>July 2003 Population</u>
Caroline	\$55,000	30,861
Cecil <sup>1</sup>	53,000	92,746
Dorchester <sup>2</sup>	45,000	30,612
Kent <sup>1</sup>	52,000	19,680
Queen Anne's	53,000	44,108
Somerset	48,100	25,447
Talbot	62,424	34,670
Wicomico	80,000	87,375
Worcester	65,000	49,604

<sup>1</sup>Salary increases to \$54,000 in calendar 2006.

<sup>2</sup>Salary increases to \$62,500 in calendar 2006.

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**Local Expenditures:** Caroline County expenditures for increasing the Sheriff's salary would increase by approximately \$7,888 for salary (\$6,667) and fringe benefits (\$1,221) in fiscal 2007, reflecting the eight-month period from November 2006 through June 2007. County expenditures would increase by approximately \$11,831 for salary (\$10,000) and fringe benefits (\$1,831) each year thereafter. The approximated cost of fringe benefits is based on fiscal 2005 county budget estimates.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Caroline County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 4, 2005  
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