

Chapter 453

(House Bill 1351)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – Special Police Officers and School Police Officers

FOR the purpose of repealing a certain provision of law relating to the appointment of special police officers in Baltimore City; repealing an obsolete provision of law relating to Baltimore City school police officers; and generally relating to special police officers and school police officers in Baltimore City.

BY repealing

The Public Local Laws of Baltimore City

Section 16–16

Article 4 – Public Local Laws of Maryland

(1979 Edition and 1997 Supplement, and 2000 Supplement, as amended)

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

Article 4 – Baltimore City

[16–16.

The Police Commissioner of Baltimore City is hereby authorized, in the exercise of his discretion, upon the application of any corporation, association, firm or person in the City of Baltimore that the said Commissioner may deem responsible, to appoint suitable persons as special police officers to serve without pay from the said City or the State of Maryland, and the corporation, association, firm or person applying for such appointment shall be liable for the official misconduct, wrongful or negligent acts of the officer appointed on such application. Every special police officer appointed under the provisions this section shall, upon the premises of the corporation, association, firm or person for which he may have been appointed, but not elsewhere, have power to preserve the public peace, prevent crime, arrest offenders, protect the rights and property in and upon such premises as fully as a regular police officer of Baltimore City. A record of such appointment shall be kept in the office of the said Commissioner, and any appointments so made may be revoked by the said Commissioner at any time; and the form of badge to be worn by such special police officer shall be prescribed by the said Police Commissioner and, additionally, such special police officers shall wear no uniform which does not have the approval of the Commissioner. Nothing herein shall be intended to permit private detectives licensed under the laws of Maryland to act or be appointed under the provisions of this section as a special police officer.

Baltimore City school police officers appointed under this section shall have power to preserve the public peace, prevent crime, arrest offenders, make arrests or issue traffic citations for violations of any of the provisions of the Maryland vehicle law or local traffic laws or regulations, including the parking area regulations adopted by a principal for school property, protect rights and property in, upon, and in the immediate vicinity of the premises of schools and other Department of Education properties as fully as regular police officers of Baltimore City. The Baltimore City school police officers shall have and enjoy the immunities and defenses of regular police officers in any suit, civil or criminal, brought against them in consequence of acts done in their official duties. The provision of this section that appointees there under shall serve without pay from the City or the State of Maryland shall not apply to Baltimore City school police officers.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2014.

Approved by the Governor, May 5, 2014.