

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2014 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 936

(Cecil County Senators)

Judicial Proceedings

Environmental Matters

Cecil County - Sheriff and Orphans' Court Judges - Salary

This bill increases the salary of the Cecil County Sheriff from \$71,500 to \$75,075 in fiscal 2016. Annual salary increases of 3% are provided until the sheriff's salary reaches \$82,075 in fiscal 2019. The bill also increases the annual salary of Cecil County Orphans' Court judges from \$5,500 to \$6,500 in fiscal 2016, \$7,500 in fiscal 2017, and \$8,750 in fiscal 2018 and each subsequent fiscal year.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2014.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None

Local Effect: Cecil County expenditures increase by approximately \$8,100 in FY 2016 and by \$25,000 in FY 2019 for increased salary and fringe benefits for the Cecil County public officials. Revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The salary of the Cecil County Sheriff is currently set at \$71,500 and the salary of the three Cecil County Orphans' Court judges is set at \$5,500. Orphans' Court judges also receive \$780 annually for travel expenses. Salary adjustments for local officials take effect at the beginning of the next term of office, which is January 2015 for the Cecil County Sheriff and Orphans' Court judges.

Background: Cecil County has three Orphans' Court judges. The annual salary of Cecil County Orphans' Court judges was last adjusted by Chapter 25 of 2002 when it was increased from \$4,500 to \$5,500.

The annual salary of the Cecil County Sheriff was last adjusted by Chapter 219 of 2005 when it was increased from \$54,000 to \$64,000 for calendar 2007 and by \$2,500 annually until reaching \$71,500 for calendar 2010 and each subsequent year. **Exhibit 1** shows the salaries for sheriffs in selected counties.

Exhibit 1
Sheriff Salaries for Selected Maryland Counties
Fiscal 2014

<u>County</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Caroline	32,718	\$80,000
Cecil	101,696	71,500
Dorchester	32,551	89,500
Harford	248,622	113,732
Kent	20,191	85,000
Queen Anne's	48,595	95,000
Somerset	26,253	60,000
Talbot	38,098	79,591
Wicomico	100,647	85,000
Worcester	51,578	85,000

Source: *Salary, Health Benefits, and Pension Survey of Maryland County Government, FY 2014*, Maryland Association of Counties

Local Expenditures: The Cecil County Sheriff's compensation increases by \$3,575 for salary and by \$1,235 for fringe benefits in fiscal 2016, for a total increase of \$4,810. This estimate assumes a constant 34.5% employer contribution rate for fringe benefits as indicated by the county.

Compensation for each Cecil County Orphans' Court Judge increases by \$1,000 for salary and by \$100 for fringe benefits in fiscal 2016, for a total increase of \$1,100. This estimate assumes a constant 10.1% employer contribution rate for fringe benefits as indicated by the county.

Exhibit 2 shows the annual increase in compensation cost for the Sheriff and for each Orphans' Court judge for fiscal 2016 through 2019, assuming constant contribution rates.

Under the same assumption, **Exhibit 3** shows the total compensation increase for all public officials included in the bill by fiscal year.

Exhibit 2
Annual Increase in Cecil County Public Official Compensation
Fiscal 2016-2019

<u>Public Official</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Salary Increase</u>	<u>Benefits Increase</u>	<u>Total Increase</u>
Sheriff	2015	\$71,500			
	2016	75,075	\$3,575	\$1,235	\$4,810
	2017	77,350	5,850	2,020	7,870
	2018	79,675	8,175	2,820	10,995
	2019	82,075	10,575	3,650	14,225
Orphans' Court Judge	2015	\$5,500			
	2016	6,500	\$1,000	\$100	\$1,100
	2017	7,500	2,000	200	2,200
	2018	8,750	3,250	330	3,580
	2019	8,750	3,250	330	3,580

Exhibit 3
Cecil County Public Officials – Total Annual Compensation Increase
Fiscal 2016-2019

<u>Public Official</u>	<u>FY 2016</u>	<u>FY 2017</u>	<u>FY 2018</u>	<u>FY 2019</u>
Sheriff	\$4,810	\$7,870	\$10,995	\$14,225
Orphans' Court Judges	3,300	6,605	10,735	10,735
Total	\$8,110	\$14,475	\$21,730	\$24,960

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Cecil County, Maryland Association of Counties, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 14, 2014
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