

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2016 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 148 (Delegate Otto)

Environment and Transportation

Judicial Proceedings

Somerset County - Sheriff - Salary

This bill increases the annual salary of the Somerset County Sheriff from \$60,000 to \$75,000, beginning with the next term of office.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Somerset County expenditures increase by \$10,400 in FY 2019 and by \$17,900 annually beginning in FY 2020. County revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The current annual salary of the Somerset County Sheriff is \$60,000. Salary adjustments for constitutional officers take effect at the beginning of the next term of office, which for the Somerset County Sheriff is December 2018.

Background: Chapter 153 of 2006 increased the salary of the Somerset County Sheriff from \$48,100 to \$60,000 and Chapter 262 of 2001 increased the salary from \$41,800 to \$48,100. **Exhibit 1** shows the fiscal 2016 salaries for sheriffs in selected Eastern Shore counties.

Exhibit 1
Sheriff Salaries
Selected Eastern Shore Counties
Fiscal 2016

<u>County</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Caroline	32,538	\$80,000
Dorchester	32,578	89,500
Somerset	25,859	60,000
Talbot	37,643	75,000
Wicomico	101,539	95,000
Worcester	51,675	88,000

Source: *Report of County Employee Salaries, Health Benefits & Pensions, Fiscal Year 2016* (Maryland Association of Counties)

Local Fiscal Effect: Somerset County expenditures increase by \$10,415 in fiscal 2019 for salary (\$8,750) and fringe benefits (\$1,665). This estimate reflects the additional personnel cost for the seven-month period from December 2018 through June 2019. Beginning in fiscal 2020, county expenditures increase by \$17,855 annually for salary (\$15,000) and fringe benefits (\$2,855). This estimate assumes a constant fringe benefits rate of 19.03% as advised by the county.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 134 (Senator Mathias) - Judicial Proceedings.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 29, 2016
min/hlb

Analysis by: Michael Sanelli

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510