

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Bill 827

(Senators Hough and Young)

Judicial Proceedings

Environment and Transportation

Frederick County - State's Attorney - Annual Salary

This bill increases, from \$154,433 to \$188,777, the salary of the State's Attorney in Frederick County. The salary must be increased annually in a percentage equal to the average annual increment and salary adjustment given to Frederick County employees over the State's Attorney's prior four-year term. Pursuant to constitutional requirements, the salary increase takes effect at the beginning of the next term of office.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Frederick County expenditures increase by approximately \$23,900 in FY 2019 and by a minimum of \$48,200 annually thereafter. Local revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: The salary for the State's Attorney for Frederick County is equal to the salary of a circuit court judge (\$154,433). **Exhibit 1** shows the salary for the State's Attorney in other counties based on fiscal 2017 data, as provided by the Maryland Association of Counties.

Exhibit 1
State's Attorney Salaries
Fiscal 2017

County	Salary
Allegany	\$125,307
Anne Arundel	175,634
Baltimore City	238,772
Baltimore	204,187
Calvert	122,850
Caroline	113,066
Carroll	113,067
Cecil	134,267
Charles	140,352
Dorchester	113,066
Garrett	113,066
Harford	115,423
Howard	141,333
Kent	109,200
Montgomery	206,476
Prince George's	199,000
Queen Anne's	132,000
St. Mary's	127,200
Somerset	98,000
Talbot	113,066
Washington	114,527
Wicomico	122,850
Worcester	122,850

Source: Maryland Association of Counties

Article III, § 35 of the Maryland Constitution prohibits the salary or compensation of any public officer from being increased or diminished during the individual's term of office, except those whose full term is fixed by law in excess of four years. According to a Letter from the Counsel to the General Assembly, dated January 17, 1978, salary increases that are to be implemented over a period of time are permissible if implemented before the beginning of the term.

Local Expenditures: County expenditures increase by \$23,869 in fiscal 2019 and by at least \$48,275 annually thereafter. The estimate includes fringe benefits, assumes that the next term of office starts January 2019, and is based on the current salary for a circuit court judge (\$154,433). The estimate also assumes an additional 2.25% salary increase annually beginning in January 2020, to reflect average annual increment and salary adjustments to other county employees, as provided by Frederick County.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 1182 (Frederick County Delegation) - Environment and Transportation.

Information Source(s): Frederick County; Maryland Association of Counties; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 21, 2017
mm/kdm Third Reader - March 10, 2017

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