

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2018 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**First Reader**

House Bill 1255 (Delegate Adams)  
 Judiciary

**Correctional Services - Retired Officer Identification Card**

This bill requires the Division of Correction (DOC) to provide a retiring State correctional officer with an identification card within 45 days after the officer’s retirement from DOC if the officer (1) meets specified requirements and (2) pays a fee of up to \$20 set by DOC, as authorized by the bill.

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** General fund revenues increase by an estimated \$3,000 in FY 2019 and by \$4,000 annually thereafter from fees. General fund expenditures increase by \$28,500 in FY 2019 to process identification cards. Future year expenditures reflect annualization.

(in dollars)	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
GF Revenue	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
GF Expenditure	\$28,500	\$32,200	\$33,000	\$34,300	\$35,600
Net Effect	(\$25,500)	(\$28,200)	(\$29,000)	(\$30,300)	(\$31,600)

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

**Analysis**

**Bill Summary:** DOC may charge a reasonable fee for each identification card or replacement card. The fee may not exceed \$20.

If a correctional officer retired before October 1, 2018, on request of the retired officer, DOC must provide a qualifying officer with an identification card within 60 days after the officer makes the request. To qualify for an identification card, a State correctional officer:

- must have retired in good standing as a correctional officer for reasons other than mental instability; and
- before retirement, must have been certified by the Correctional Training Commission and completed an applicable probationary period.

An identification card issued pursuant to the bill must be in the form approved by the Commissioner of Correction and must include:

- the caption “Retired State Correctional Facility Officer” printed on the front of the card;
- a photograph of the retired officer whose name appears on the card;
- the name of the retired officer;
- the date the card was issued and a statement that the card does not expire; and
- the following statement: “This card is the property of the Division of Correction.”

**Current Law:** Generally, law enforcement agencies in the United States provide retirees with retirement identification cards. The federal Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act allows federal, state, and local police retirees to carry firearms with their issued retiree identification cards and with certification that they successfully completed annual firearms training at their own cost. The retirees may carry the firearms anywhere in the United States. There are no similar provisions for correctional officers, and most correctional officers are not certified to carry a firearm for employment purposes.

**State Revenues:** General fund revenues increase minimally beginning in fiscal 2019 due to the fees charged by DOC to retiring correctional officers for the identification cards. The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) advises that 117 State correctional officers retired in fiscal 2015, 196 retired in fiscal 2016, and 219 retired in fiscal 2017. Assuming approximately 200 State correctional officers retire annually and that DOC sets the fee at \$20, general fund revenues from identification card fees increase by an estimated \$3,000 in fiscal 2019 (due to the bill’s October 1, 2018 effective date) and by \$4,000 annually thereafter. Any additional fees assessed for replacement cards are negligible.

**State Expenditures:** General fund expenditures for DPSCS increase by \$28,508 in fiscal 2019, which accounts for the bill’s October 1, 2018 effective date. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring a part-time administrative aide to process the identification cards

for retiring State correctional officers. It includes a salary, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenses.

Position	0.5
Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$22,383
Operating Expenses	<u>5,125</u>
<b>Total FY 2019 State Expenditures</b>	<b>\$28,508</b>

This estimate does not include any supplies that may be needed to develop the identification cards. Future year expenditures reflect a full part-time salary with annual increases and employee turnover and ongoing operating expenses.

**Additional Comments:** A portion of State correctional officers are under the charge of the Commissioner of Pretrial and Detention Services (DPDS) rather than the Commissioner of DOC. The bill only applies to correctional officers retiring from DOC; therefore, under the bill, DPDS is not required to provide identification cards to State correctional officers who retire from DPDS.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services;  
Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 12, 2018  
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