

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 720

(Carroll County Delegation)

Environment and Transportation

Judicial Proceedings

Carroll County – Deputy Clerk or Deputy Sheriff – Oath of Office

This emergency bill requires that every deputy clerk or deputy sheriff in Carroll County take and sign the oath (or affirmation) of office prescribed by Article I, § 9 of the Maryland Constitution.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect Carroll County operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Every deputy clerk or deputy sheriff in Carroll County is required to take the oath/affirmation prescribed in the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article.

Montgomery County and Washington County are the only local jurisdictions that require every deputy clerk or deputy sheriff to take and sign the oath/affirmation of office prescribed by Article I, § 9 of the Maryland Constitution.

In general, an oath or affirmation under Article I, § 9 of the Maryland Constitution is to swear/affirm to support the U.S. Constitution; be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland and support its Constitution and laws; and, to the best of one's skill and judgment, diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the respective office, according to the Constitution and laws of the State.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: SB 1108 (Carroll County Senators) - Judicial Proceedings.

Information Source(s): Carroll County; Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 5, 2024
js/jkb Third Reader - March 18, 2024

Analysis by: Joanne E. Tetlow

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