



# HARFORD COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF'S UNION

Local 838, International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO

PO Box 881, Bel Air, Maryland 21014

[www.hcdsu.org](http://www.hcdsu.org)

House of Delegates Appropriations Committee  
Delegate Maggie McIntosh, Chair  
House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 18, 2020

RE: House Bill 1073 – Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System – Military Service Credit

Dear Delegate McIntosh and Distinguished Members of the Appropriations Committee,

On behalf of over 300 members of the Harford County Deputy Sheriff's Union, who are current participants of the Law Enforcement Officers Pension System (LEOPS), I respectfully ask that you SUPPORT House Bill 1073.

Some members of LEOPS have served an entire career protecting our country abroad, in the armed forces and then returned home to complete a second career protecting our communities. This lifetime of service is not only extremely rare, but heroic. This brave sacrifice should not only be applauded, but rewarded through all possible means.

Further, House Bill 1073 allows and incentivizes future American patriots leaving a career of military service to bring their life experiences and calmness in critical situations to keep our communities safe. These traits should be welcomed and recruited by LEOPS organizations.

While the lifetime commitment to our country is valiant, there is an extreme risk to mind and body. The dangers and rigors of a career on the front lines of the armed forces, followed by a career of keeping communities safe does take an emotional and physical toll. These dedicated Marylanders should have the opportunity to be compensated and rewarded for their service. House Bill 1073 would permit those members who served a career of active duty military to apply for up to five years of military service credit towards LEOPS. It should be noted that this benefit is already extended to military veterans that did not serve an entire career.

Therefore, it's time to reward these patriots and allow them to be compensated for the lifetime of service and receive credit in LEOPS towards retirement.

On behalf of the members of the Harford County Deputy Sheriff's Union, I am requesting the members of the Appropriations Committee to vote FAVORABLY in support of House Bill 1073.

Sincerely,

*Aaron Penman*

Aaron Penman, President  
Harford County Deputy Sheriff's Union