

SB587 DULAY FAV

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Position: FAV



State Law Enforcement Officers Labor Alliance

February 20, 2020

The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chairman
Senate Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Senate Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: SB 587 - State Police Retirement System and Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System – Member Contributions

Dear Chairman Guzzone:

Good afternoon Chairman and members of the committee. I am Jimmy Dulay, a First Sergeant with the Maryland State Police, and the President of the State Law Enforcement Officers Labor Alliance (SLEOLA) which is the exclusive representative for approximately 1,800 active law enforcement officers.

I am here to testify in support of SB 587. Currently, members of the State Police Retirement System continue to earn a pension benefit for credible service up to 28 years. Once this maximum benefit is achieved, additional years of service will not increase the pension percentage of the member. Similarly, members of the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System achieve a maximum percentage benefit up to 32 years and 6 months of service.

Senate Bill 587 would provide a benefit to a small portion of our membership you have chosen to have extended careers in law enforcement. We believe that it is fair to stop member contributions once maximum benefit accrual levels are reached.

I would like to thank the sponsors of this bill, and would ask the committee for favorable support of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Dulay
President

cc: Members, Senate Budget & Taxation Committee

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M a r y l a n d Troopers Association



INCORPORATED 1979

February 20, 2020

The Honorable Sarah Elfreth, Chair and Members of the Senate Pensions Subcommittee

RE: SB 587 State Police Retirement System and Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System - Member Contributions

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland Troopers Association (MTA) has a membership strength of approximately 2,629 members of which 1,120 are active sworn Troopers involved in traffic and criminal enforcement throughout the State of Maryland.

SB588 has been introduced by Senators Griffith and Serafini, and it simply exempts members of the State Police Retirement System (SPRS) and the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System (LEOPS) from making member contributions when they stop accruing benefits. This legislation will allow SPRS members to stop making contributions when they reach 28 years of service due to the fact that under current law at 28 years of service their maximum retirement benefit is reached.

Maryland State Troopers are integral members of the law enforcement community in Maryland. Given the role that our Maryland State Troopers perform in the public safety of our counties and state we feel that this small change is warranted and justified.

Therefore, the Maryland Troopers Association strongly supports SB587 and request a favorable report.

Brian Blubaugh
President
Maryland Troopers Association

Member of National Troopers Coalition
1300 REISTERSTOWN ROAD, PIKESVILLE, MARYLAND 21208 (410) 653-3885 1-800-TROOPER
E-mail: info@mdtroopers.org

SB 587 SPRS and LEOPS pension Contribution

Uploaded by: Penman, Aaron

Position: FAV



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

February 11, 2020

Maryland State Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair
Miller Senate Office Building
3 West
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Senate Bill 587 – State Police Retirement System and Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System – Member Contributions

Dear Senator Guzzone and Distinguished Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee,

On behalf of over 300 active and retired members of the Harford County Deputy Sheriff's Union and their families, I respectfully ask that you SUPPORT House Bill 587.

A lifelong career in law enforcement can be physically, emotionally and financially difficult. Regardless, this is an excepted toll, as most police don't enter into the profession for personal gain. Nevertheless, a lifetime of dedicated service keeping communities safe should be rewarded with an adequate pension for retirement.

State agency law enforcement contributes their entire career into a pension system to be afforded that opportunity. Pension contribution is a commitment that state police officers are willing to make for an opportunity to earn maximum percentage upon retirement. The question becomes, when contributions reach maximum potential earning prior to full retirement, should law enforcement still be required to contribute, while receiving no compensation. Plainly spoken, if an officer can no longer gain in a retirement system, why should they continue to contribute? Essentially, they would be paying for someone else's retirement. At a crucial age near retirement, law enforcement personnel should be doing all they can to invest in the future, and that same contribution that's receiving no benefit should be invested in an alternate beneficial financial plan.

Therefore, the Harford County Deputy Sheriff's Union is requesting the honorable members of the Budget and Taxation committee to approve the ability of senior law enforcement personnel to stop paying into a system when they no longer receive a benefit, subsequently allowing them to reinvest those earnings to improve their financial future.

We ask that you and the members of Budget and Taxation support the first responders who spent their careers serving others by voting favorably on House Bill 587 – State Police Retirement



HARFORD COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF'S UNION
Local 838, International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO
PO Box 881, Bel Air, Maryland 21014

System and Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System – Member Contributions and SUPPORT its passage.

Sincerely,

Aaron Penman

Aaron Penman, President
Harford County Deputy Sheriff's Union