

WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lieutenant Governor



YAAKOV "JAKE" WEISSMANN
Acting Secretary

MARC L. NICOLE
Deputy Secretary

TITLE: SB136 Collective Bargaining - Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission - Police Officers

DATE: February 5th 2026

COMMITTEE: Finance

POSITION: Letter of Support with Amendments

SUMMARY OF BILL: Senate Bill 136 grants collective bargaining rights to police officers employed by the Maryland Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission (ATCC). If passed, these officers will be able to join a union, negotiate contracts, and participate in the same collective bargaining processes as other State employees and Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) police.

EXPLANATION: The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) supports the intent of SB 136 and the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission's (ATCC) request for an effective date of July 1, 2026. While DBM initially suggested a January transition for administrative purposes, we are prepared to move it to an earlier date. Once the bargaining status is updated, the system automatically switches the benefit group to SLEOLA. This will generate an automated notification in Workday for each officer. It is critical to note that officers have a strict 60-day window to make new elections. Operationally, this means the ATCC must take an active role in monitoring these transitions. Unlike a January 1 start, which follows the standard Open Enrollment process, a July 1 start requires the Agency to ensure every impacted individual completes their Workday task. If an officer fails to make an election within the 60-day period they would be unable to go back and change an election. DBM is committed to supporting this timeline, provided the ATCC is prepared to manage the internal follow-up required to ensure no officer is negatively impacted by the retroactivity or election deadlines.

45 Calvert Street • Annapolis, MD 21401-1907

Tel: 410-260-7041 • Fax: 410-974-2585 • Toll Free: 1-800-705-3493 • TTY Users: Call via Maryland Relay

<http://dbm.maryland.gov>

WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lieutenant Governor



YAAKOV "JAKE" WEISSMANN
Acting Secretary

MARC L. NICOLE
Deputy Secretary

**For additional information, contact Dana Phillips at
(410) 260-6068 or dana.phillips@maryland.gov**

45 Calvert Street • Annapolis, MD 21401-1907

Tel: 410-260-7041 • Fax: 410-974-2585 • Toll Free: 1-800-705-3493 • TTY Users: Call via Maryland Relay

<http://dbm.maryland.gov>