

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

Senate Bill 965

(Carroll County Senators)

Judicial Proceedings

Judiciary

Carroll County - Sheriff - Salary

This bill increases, from \$140,000 to \$191,078.10, the annual salary of the Carroll County Sheriff beginning in 2026. Beginning in 2027, the sheriff must receive an annual salary of \$212,309. Pursuant to constitutional requirements, the first salary increase takes effect at the beginning of the next term of office.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Carroll County expenditures increase by \$47,000 in FY 2027 and by \$84,100 annually thereafter. County revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The current salary of the Carroll County Sheriff is \$140,000.

Article III, § 35 of the Maryland Constitution prohibits the salary or compensation of any public officer from being increased or diminished during the individual's term of office, except those whose full term is fixed by law in excess of four years. According to a letter from the counsel to the General Assembly, dated January 17, 1978, salary increases that are to be implemented over a period of time are permissible if implemented before the beginning of the term.

Local Expenditures: Carroll County expenditures increase by approximately \$47,000 in fiscal 2027 and by \$84,100 annually thereafter. This estimate includes fringe benefits (as provided by the county) and accounts for the first increase taking effect in December 2026, when the next term of office begins. As the bill establishes a salary of \$212,309 *beginning in 2027*, the estimate accounts for that salary taking effect January 1, 2027.

Additional Information

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

Designated Cross File: HB 1060 (Carroll County Delegation) - Judiciary.

Information Source(s): Carroll County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 23, 2024
km/jkb Third Reader - March 18, 2024
Revised - Amendment(s) - March 18, 2024

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