

---

**By: Senator Amoss**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 1996

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation and Judicial Proceedings

---

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety Financing Reform Act of 1996**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the per capita amount of a certain supplemental grant by the  
4 State to certain subdivisions for police protection; providing for a supplemental  
5 grant by the State to Baltimore City of a certain per capita amount; requiring the  
6 State to allocate and distribute the grant among the subdivisions and certain  
7 municipalities in the subdivisions on a per capita basis; altering the calculation of a  
8 certain payment by the State each fiscal year to certain municipalities based on the  
9 number of sworn police officers employed by the municipality; altering the amounts  
10 of certain court costs imposed in the District Court; altering the distribution of  
11 certain court costs collected by the District Court; and generally relating to State  
12 allocation of money to subdivisions and municipalities for police protection.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
14 Article 88B - Department of State Police  
15 Section 66(a)(1)  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (1995 Replacement Volume)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
19 Article 88B - Department of State Police  
20 Section 66(b)(5) and (8)  
21 Annotated Code of Maryland  
22 (1995 Replacement Volume)

23 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
24 Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
25 Section 7-301  
26 Annotated Code of Maryland  
27 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

28 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
29 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

2

1 **Article 88B - Department of State Police**

2 66.

3 (a) As used in this subtitle:

4 (1) "Subdivision" means any county of Maryland but does not include  
5 Baltimore City; or where the context requires, the governing body thereof.

6 (b) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1975, and thereafter, the State shall pay to  
7 each subdivision, and to each qualifying municipality, each year in the manner and subject  
8 to the limitations and requirements hereinafter provided, an amount determined as  
9 follows:

10 (5) Supplemental Grant.

11 (I) In addition to the payments made under subparagraphs (1), (2),  
12 (3) and (4) of this subsection, the State shall pay:

13 1. [to] TO each subdivision, SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II)  
14 OF THIS PARAGRAPH, an amount the equivalent of [~~\$2.00~~] \$3.00 per capita; AND

15 2. TO BALTIMORE CITY, AN AMOUNT THE EQUIVALENT OF  
16 \$1.00 PER CAPITA.

17 (II) [This amount of supplemental grant shall be retained by the  
18 subdivision but the governing body of the subdivision] THE STATE shall allocate and  
19 distribute [part of the amount of] THE supplemental grant to EACH SUBDIVISION  
20 AMONG THE SUBDIVISIONS AND the qualifying municipalities IN THOSE SUBDIVISIONS  
21 on a [formula] PER CAPITA basis [to be negotiated between the governing body of the  
22 subdivision and the governing body of each qualifying municipality within the subdivision.  
23 The subdivision may use the proceeds of the supplemental grant for expenditures for  
24 police protection that are of benefit to all residents of the subdivision, both within or  
25 outside of municipalities].

26 (8) Municipal Sworn Officer Allocation. [For the fiscal year ending June  
27 30, 1991 and for each fiscal year thereafter, the] THE State shall pay to each qualifying  
28 municipality, in addition to the payments made under subparagraphs (1) through (7) of  
29 this subsection an amount equal to [~~\$900~~] \$1,500 for each sworn police officer actually  
30 employed on a full-time basis by [each] THE qualifying municipality, as determined by  
31 the Secretary.

32 **Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

33 7-301.

34 (a) The court costs in a traffic case, including parking and impounding cases in  
35 which costs are imposed, are [~~\$15.00~~] \$25. Such costs shall also be applicable to those  
36 cases in which the defendant elects to waive his right to trial and pay the fine or penalty  
37 deposit established by the Chief Judge of the District Court by administrative regulation.  
38 In an uncontested parking or impounding case in which the fines are paid directly to a  
39 political subdivision or municipality, costs are \$2.00, which costs shall be paid to and  
40 retained by the political subdivision or municipality. In an uncontested case in which the

3

1 fine is paid directly to an agency of State government authorized by law to regulate  
2 parking of motor vehicles, the costs are \$2.00. The fine and the costs shall be paid to the  
3 agency, which shall receive and account for these funds as in all othercases involving  
4 sums due the State through a State agency.

5 (b) (1) The court costs in a criminal case in which costs are imposed are  
6 [~~\$15.00~~] \$25.

7 (2) The costs shall be in addition to any costs imposed in a criminal case  
8 under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Act.

9 (c) (1) The filing fees and costs in a civil case are those prescribed by law  
10 subject to modification by law, rule, or administrative regulation.

11 (2) The Court of Appeals may provide by rule for waiver of prepayment of  
12 filing fees and other costs in cases of indigency.

13 (d) When a person pays court costs or a fine with a check in any motor vehicle,  
14 criminal, or civil case in the District Court, and the check is returned to the court by the  
15 financial institution on which it is drawn because of insufficient funds in the account, or  
16 because the account has been closed or never existed, then the court may impose  
17 additional costs of \$10 against the party issuing the check. These costs shall be in addition  
18 to any other penalty now prescribed by law.

19 (e) The Comptroller shall establish a Law Enforcement and Correctional  
20 Training Fund, as provided in Article 41, § 4-1301 of the Code, and theComptroller shall  
21 pay into the Fund [~~one third~~] ONE-FIFTH of all court costs collected bythe District  
22 Court under subsections (a) and (b)(1) of this section.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
24 October 1, 1996.