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By: **Senators Exum, Lawlah, Currie, Dorman, Green, and Pinsky**  
Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2000  
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System - Participation by Eligible**  
3 **Governmental Units Subject to Required Member Contributions**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain governmental units to approve participation  
5 in the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System, subject to a requirement that  
6 the law enforcement officers employed by the governmental unit make member  
7 contributions at a certain rate; requiring that the State actuary make certain  
8 adjustments to the employer contribution rates for certain participating  
9 governmental units under certain circumstances; providing for a certain  
10 member contribution rate under certain circumstances; and generally relating  
11 to the participation of certain governmental units in the Law Enforcement  
12 Officers' Pension System, subject to the requirement of certain member  
13 contributions.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
15 Article - State Personnel and Pensions  
16 Section 26-204 and 31-2A-03  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

21 **Article - State Personnel and Pensions**

22 26-204.

23 (a) Except as provided in [subsection (b)] SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) of this  
24 section, a member's contribution rate is 5% of the part of the member's earnable  
25 compensation that exceeds the taxable wage base for each year.

26 (b) The contribution rate for a member who has transferred from the  
27 Employees' Retirement System is the rate set under:

1 (1) Section 22-214(a) of this article, for a member who had elected  
2 Selection A (Additional member contributions) under § 22-219 of this article; or

3 (2) Section 22-214(b) of this article, for a member who had elected  
4 Selection B (Limited cost-of-living adjustment) under § 22-220 of this article.

5 (C) THE CONTRIBUTION RATE FOR A MEMBER WHO IS AN EMPLOYEE OF A  
6 PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTAL UNIT THAT HAS APPROVED PARTICIPATION IN THE  
7 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION SYSTEM UNDER § 31-2A-03(B) OF THIS  
8 ARTICLE IS 6% OF THE MEMBER'S EARNABLE COMPENSATION.

9 31-2A-03.

10 (A) [If] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, IF at least 60% of the  
11 law enforcement officers of an eligible governmental unit who are members of a local  
12 pension system petition to become members of the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension  
13 System, the legislative body of the eligible governmental unit may approve the  
14 participation of these law enforcement officers in the Law Enforcement Officers'  
15 Pension System as though the local pension system were not in operation.

16 (B) (1) A LEGISLATIVE BODY OF AN ELIGIBLE GOVERNMENTAL UNIT MAY  
17 APPROVE OF PARTICIPATION IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION  
18 SYSTEM SUBJECT TO A REQUIREMENT THAT THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS  
19 EMPLOYED BY THE ELIGIBLE GOVERNMENTAL UNIT MAKE MEMBER  
20 CONTRIBUTIONS AT THE RATE OF 6% OF THE MEMBER'S EARNABLE COMPENSATION.

21 (2) IF A LEGISLATIVE BODY OF AN ELIGIBLE GOVERNMENTAL UNIT  
22 APPROVES PARTICIPATION IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION SYSTEM  
23 SUBJECT TO THE CONDITION OF REQUIRED MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER  
24 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE ACTUARY SHALL ADJUST THE EMPLOYER  
25 CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER § 21-306.1 OF THIS ARTICLE TO REFLECT THE MEMBER  
26 CONTRIBUTIONS.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
28 October 1, 2000.