

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2001 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 724 (Somerset County Delegation)

Commerce and Government Matters

Judicial Proceedings

**Somerset County - Public Officials - Salaries**

This bill increases the annual salaries of officials in Somerset County, as specified in the following table.

<b>Public Official</b>	<b>Current Salary</b>	<b>Proposed Salary</b>
County Commissioners	\$5,500	\$6,000
County Commissioners (County Road Board)	\$5,500	\$6,000
Board of License Commissioners - Chairman	\$2,000	\$2,500
Board of License Commissioners - Board Members	\$1,800	\$2,000
Board of License Commissioners - Clerk	\$1,800	\$2,500
Board of License Commissioners - Attorney	\$2,400	\$3,000
State's Attorney	\$79,200	\$91,100
Sheriff	\$41,800	\$48,100
County Treasurer	\$38,500	\$44,300
Orphans' Court – Judge's Daily Salary	\$31 per day	\$34 per day
Orphans' Court - Judge's Daily Travel Expense	\$30 per day	\$33 per day

Salary increases for the County Commissioners, the State's Attorney, the Sheriff, the County Treasurer, the County Roads Board, and the Orphans' Court judges begin with the next term of office in January 2003. Salary increases for all other officials begin on July 1, 2001.

The bill is effective July 1, 2001.

## Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Somerset County expenditures would increase by \$2,400 in FY 2002, by \$21,100 in FY 2003, and by \$39,800 in FY 2004 and each year thereafter.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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## Analysis

**Current Law:** Salary adjustments for constitutional officers take effect at the beginning of the next term of office. In Somerset County, the term of office for county commissioners are not staggered, accordingly all five members will begin a new term in January 2003. In addition, the Somerset County Commissioners serve as the County Roads Board. The Board of License Commissioners in Somerset County is comprised of three members who are responsible for alcoholic beverages licenses and the operation of the county liquor dispensaries.

**Background:** The salaries for the County Commissioners of Somerset County, the State's Attorney, the County Treasurer, the Sheriff, and the County Roads Board members were last changed in fiscal 1999 (Chapter 55 of 1997).

**Local Fiscal Effect:** Somerset County expenditures would increase by \$2,434 in fiscal 2002 which accounts for the salary increases and fringe benefits (26%) for the members of the Board of License Commissioners, and the salary of the clerk and the attorney of the Board of License Commissioners. In fiscal 2003, Somerset County expenditures would increase by \$21,097 which accounts for the six months of fiscal 2003 when the constitutional officers begin their terms in January 2003. The full impact of the salary enhancement does not occur until fiscal 2004 when county expenditures will increase by \$39,760 and each year thereafter.

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## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Somerset County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – February 20, 2001  
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