

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 68 (Caroline County Delegation)

Commerce and Government Matters

Judicial Proceedings

Caroline County - Sheriff - Salary

This bill increases the salary of the Sheriff of Caroline County from \$49,500 to \$55,000 beginning with the next term of office in January 2003.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Caroline County expenditures would increase by \$3,600 in FY 2003 and by \$7,200 in FY 2004 and each year thereafter. Revenues would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The current salary of the Sheriff of Caroline County is \$45,000. The salary is scheduled to increase to \$49,500 on January 1, 2003. Salary adjustments for constitutional officers take effect at the beginning of the next term of office.

Background: The General Assembly approved legislation at the 2000 session (Chapter 378 of 2000) that increased the sheriff's salary from \$45,000 to \$49,500. Since salary adjustments for constitutional officers take effect at the beginning of the next term of office, which begins January 1, 2003 for the Sheriff of Caroline County, the salary increase has not taken effect. The sheriff's salary remains set at \$45,000 through December 2002.

Caroline County has no county police force; the sheriff acts as the primary law enforcement officer, responsible for patrolling the county and investigating many of the crimes occurring in the county. In addition, the sheriff's office serves criminal warrants as well as civil process. The office is responsible for security of the circuit court, the extradition of circuit court defendants, and the commitment of mentally ill patients.

Local Fiscal Effect: Caroline County expenditures could increase by \$3,575 in fiscal 2003 for additional salary (\$2,750) and fringe benefits (\$825). This reflects salary adjustments for a six-month period (January 2003 - June 2003). Beginning in fiscal 2004, county expenditures could increase by \$7,150, which reflects annualization.

Additional Comments: The county's current sheriff has decided against receiving the full fringe benefits package provided by the county. Accordingly, if the current sheriff is re-elected in 2002 and continues to decline the county's full fringe benefit package, the increase in county expenditures would be lower.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 15, 2002
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