

HOUSE BILL 1068

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2003 Regular Session
3r2205
CF 3r2598

By: **Delegates Hammen, Anderson, Carter, C. Davis, Doory, Harrison, Kirk, Krysiak, Marriott, McHale, McIntosh, Oaks, Paige, Rawlings, and Rosenberg**

Introduced and read first time: February 20, 2003
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore City - Urban Park Rangers**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Police Commissioner of Baltimore City to appoint
4 Baltimore urban park rangers on the application of the Department of
5 Recreation and Parks of Baltimore City; authorizing urban park rangers to
6 make arrests and issue traffic citations on property controlled by the
7 Department; authorizing an urban park ranger to take official action on other
8 property under certain circumstances; providing that an urban park ranger has
9 the same powers, privileges, immunities, and defenses as Baltimore City police
10 officers; requiring the Police Commissioner to keep certain records; authorizing
11 the Police Commissioner to revoke certain appointments; requiring the Police
12 Commissioner to approve the uniform to be worn by urban park rangers;
13 prohibiting urban park rangers from wearing a certain uniform; requiring the
14 Department to adopt certain requirements and standards under certain
15 circumstances; requiring the Department to adopt regulations; providing that
16 this Act does not make an urban park ranger a member of the Police
17 Department of Baltimore City; providing that this Act does not affect the salary,
18 benefits, or retirement program of an employee of Baltimore City; and generally
19 relating to urban park rangers in Baltimore City.

20 BY adding to

21 The Public Local Laws of Baltimore City
22 Section 16-16D
23 Article 4 - Public Local Laws of Maryland
24 (1979 Edition and 1997 Supplement, and 2000 Supplement, as amended)

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

1

Article 4 - Baltimore City

2 16-16D.

3 (A) ON THE APPLICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS
4 OF BALTIMORE CITY, THE POLICE COMMISSIONER OF BALTIMORE CITY MAY APPOINT
5 BALTIMORE URBAN PARK RANGERS.

6 (B) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN URBAN PARK
7 RANGER MAY:

8 (I) MAKE ARRESTS TO ENFORCE THE GENERAL CRIMINAL LAWS
9 OF THE STATE; AND

10 (II) ISSUE TRAFFIC CITATIONS FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE
11 MARYLAND VEHICLE LAW OR LOCAL TRAFFIC LAWS OR REGULATIONS, INCLUDING
12 PARKING AREA REGULATIONS.

13 (2) AN URBAN PARK RANGER MAY EXERCISE THE POWERS LISTED IN
14 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION ONLY ON PROPERTY CONTROLLED BY THE
15 DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS, UNLESS:

16 (I) THE URBAN PARK RANGER IS ENGAGED IN FRESH PURSUIT OF
17 A SUSPECTED OFFENDER;

18 (II) THE URBAN PARK RANGER IS REQUESTED OR AUTHORIZED TO
19 ACT IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY BY THE POLICE COMMISSIONER;

20 (III) THE EXERCISE OF POWER IS NECESSARY TO FACILITATE THE
21 ORDERLY FLOW OF TRAFFIC TO AND FROM PROPERTY CONTROLLED BY THE
22 DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS; OR

23 (IV) THE URBAN PARK RANGER IS ORDERED TO ACT IN AN OFFICIAL
24 CAPACITY BY THE MAYOR OF BALTIMORE CITY.

25 (C) AN URBAN PARK RANGER HAS THE SAME POWERS, PRIVILEGES,
26 IMMUNITIES, AND DEFENSES AS A POLICE OFFICER IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

27 (D) (1) THE POLICE COMMISSIONER SHALL KEEP A RECORD OF ALL
28 APPOINTMENTS OF URBAN PARK RANGERS.

29 (2) THE POLICE COMMISSIONER MAY REVOKE AN APPOINTMENT AT ANY
30 TIME.

31 (E) (1) THE POLICE COMMISSIONER SHALL APPROVE THE UNIFORM TO BE
32 WORN BY AN URBAN PARK RANGER.

33 (2) AN URBAN PARK RANGER MAY NOT WEAR A UNIFORM THAT THE
34 POLICE COMMISSIONER DOES NOT APPROVE.

1 (F) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MARYLAND POLICE TRAINING COMMISSION,
2 THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS SHALL ADOPT:

3 (1) REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, HUMAN AND PUBLIC
4 RELATIONS SKILLS, AND MORAL CHARACTER FOR AN APPLICANT FOR EMPLOYMENT
5 AS AN URBAN PARK RANGER; AND

6 (2) STANDARDS FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES OF URBAN PARK
7 RANGERS.

8 (G) THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS SHALL ADOPT
9 REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF URBAN PARK RANGERS.

10 (H) THIS SECTION DOES NOT:

11 (1) MAKE AN URBAN PARK RANGER A MEMBER OF THE POLICE
12 DEPARTMENT; OR

13 (2) AFFECT THE SALARY, BENEFITS, OR RETIREMENT PROGRAM OF AN
14 EMPLOYEE OF BALTIMORE CITY.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
16 effect June 1, 2003.