

HOUSE BILL 1068

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2003 Regular Session
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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
Re-referred to: Judiciary, February 27, 2003

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 20, 2003

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore City - Urban Park Rangers Police Jurisdiction - Parks**

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

24 BY ~~adding to~~ repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

1 The Public Local Laws of Baltimore City
2 Section ~~16-16D~~ 16-16A(a) and 16-16C(e)
3 Article 4 - Public Local Laws of Maryland
4 (1979 Edition and 1997 Supplement, and 2000 Supplement, as amended)

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

7 **Article 4 - Baltimore City**

8 ~~16-16D.~~

9 (A) ~~ON THE APPLICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS
10 OF BALTIMORE CITY, THE POLICE COMMISSIONER OF BALTIMORE CITY MAY APPOINT
11 BALTIMORE URBAN PARK RANGERS.~~

12 (B) (1) ~~SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN URBAN PARK
13 RANGER MAY:~~

14 (I) ~~MAKE ARRESTS TO ENFORCE THE GENERAL CRIMINAL LAWS
15 OF THE STATE; AND~~

16 (II) ~~ISSUE TRAFFIC CITATIONS FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE
17 MARYLAND VEHICLE LAW OR LOCAL TRAFFIC LAWS OR REGULATIONS, INCLUDING
18 PARKING AREA REGULATIONS.~~

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

22 (I) ~~THE URBAN PARK RANGER IS ENGAGED IN FRESH PURSUIT OF
23 A SUSPECTED OFFENDER;~~

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

26 (III) ~~THE EXERCISE OF POWER IS NECESSARY TO FACILITATE THE
27 ORDERLY FLOW OF TRAFFIC TO AND FROM PROPERTY CONTROLLED BY THE
28 DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS; OR~~

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

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

33 (D) (1) ~~THE POLICE COMMISSIONER SHALL KEEP A RECORD OF ALL
34 APPOINTMENTS OF URBAN PARK RANGERS.~~

1 (2) ~~THE POLICE COMMISSIONER MAY REVOKE AN APPOINTMENT AT ANY~~
2 ~~TIME.~~

3 (E) (1) ~~THE POLICE COMMISSIONER SHALL APPROVE THE UNIFORM TO BE~~
4 ~~WORN BY AN URBAN PARK RANGER.~~

5 (2) ~~AN URBAN PARK RANGER MAY NOT WEAR A UNIFORM THAT THE~~
6 ~~POLICE COMMISSIONER DOES NOT APPROVE.~~

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

9 (1) ~~REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATION, TRAINING, HUMAN AND PUBLIC~~
10 ~~RELATIONS SKILLS, AND MORAL CHARACTER FOR AN APPLICANT FOR EMPLOYMENT~~
11 ~~AS AN URBAN PARK RANGER; AND~~

12 (2) ~~STANDARDS FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES OF URBAN PARK~~
13 ~~RANGERS.~~

14 (G) ~~THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS SHALL ADOPT~~
15 ~~REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF URBAN PARK RANGERS.~~

16 (H) ~~THIS SECTION DOES NOT:~~

17 (1) ~~MAKE AN URBAN PARK RANGER A MEMBER OF THE POLICE~~
18 ~~DEPARTMENT; OR~~

19 (2) ~~AFFECT THE SALARY, BENEFITS, OR RETIREMENT PROGRAM OF AN~~
20 ~~EMPLOYEE OF BALTIMORE CITY.~~

21 16-16A.

22 (a) (1) The Commissioner may appoint persons as special enforcement
23 officers of the City of Baltimore which may provide by ordinance for their duties,
24 functions, and procedures as special officers. The officers may issue and serve
25 citations and summonses to appear before the appropriate division of the District
26 Court in proceedings for enforcement of any City code, ordinance, regulation, or
27 provision of public local law pertaining to building, housing, zoning, fire, public
28 health [and sanitation], SANITATION, AND PARKS.

29 (2) These officers may receive complaints and investigate all violations
30 enumerated in paragraph (1) of this subsection and all violations of any State law or
31 regulation concerning buildings, public health, fire, or sanitation reported to them by
32 any State department or agency.

33 (3) The officers may not arrest or take into custody any violator under
34 this subsection or otherwise have the power of arrest in their official capacity. A
35 record of appointment of officers shall be kept by the Commissioner and any
36 appointment may be revoked by the Commissioner at any time. The form of badge

1 and the type of uniform that may be worn by the special enforcement officers shall be
2 approved by the Police Commissioner.

3 16-16C.

4 (e) (1) Except as limited by paragraph (2) of this subsection, and only within
5 the boundaries eligible for inclusion in the downtown commercial district authorized
6 by Chapter 604 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1992 AND ON PROPERTY
7 CONTROLLED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS OF BALTIMORE
8 CITY, a special traffic enforcement officer has the same authority to control and direct
9 pedestrian and vehicular traffic under the Maryland Vehicle Law and Baltimore City
10 ordinances regulating motor vehicles as a police officer.

11 (2) A special traffic enforcement officer has no power to:

12 (i) issue citations for moving violations other than for a failure to
13 obey lawful traffic direction or traffic control devices; or

14 (ii) make arrests.

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