
By: **Delegates James, Conway, and Edwards**
Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2005
Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 26, 2005

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Consolidation of State Forest and Park Rangers and Natural Resources**
3 **Police –~~Classification~~**

4 FOR the purpose of ~~requiring the Department of Natural Resources to use the~~
5 ~~Natural Resources Police classification and salary to classify certain employees~~
6 ~~of the State Forest and Park Service; requiring certain employees to be placed in~~
7 ~~a certain classification and salary grade; authorizing the Superintendent of the~~
8 ~~State Forest and Park Service to use titles and ranks that are different from~~
9 ~~certain classifications; requiring certain Superintendents to approve the~~
10 ~~transfer of certain employees; requiring certain classifications to be used in~~
11 ~~certain promotions; establishing that certain employees are eligible for certain~~
12 ~~promotions; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to~~
13 ~~the classification of law enforcement employees in the consolidation of the State~~
14 ~~Forest and Park Rangers and the Natural Resources Police confirming the~~
15 ~~status of certain employees as police officers and preserving those officers' law~~
16 ~~enforcement commissions; making this Act an emergency measure; and~~
17 ~~generally relating to the status and commissions of certain police officers.~~

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
19 MARYLAND, That:

20 (a) ~~In the implementation of the consolidation of the Natural Resources Police~~
21 ~~and the State Forest and Park Rangers, the Department of Natural Resources shall~~
22 ~~use the Natural Resources Police classification and salary grades to classify the law~~
23 ~~enforcement officers of the State Forest and Park Service.~~

24 (b) (1) ~~The law enforcement employees of the State Forest and Park Service~~
25 ~~shall be placed in the Natural Resources Police classification and salary grade which~~
26 ~~most closely corresponds to the employee's current pay grade.~~

1 (2) ~~The placement of a law enforcement employee of the State Forest and~~
2 ~~Park Service in the Natural Resources Police classification may not result in a loss of~~
3 ~~pay grade.~~

4 (e) ~~The Superintendent of the State Forest and Park Service may use titles~~
5 ~~and ranks for State Forest and Park Service Rangers that are different than the~~
6 ~~Natural Resources Police classifications.~~

7 (d) ~~The Superintendent of the Natural Resources Police and the~~
8 ~~Superintendent of the State Forest and Park Service shall approve the transfer of an~~
9 ~~employee from the State Forest and Park Service to the Natural Resources Police.~~

10 (e) (1) ~~The Natural Resources Police classification and salary grade shall be~~
11 ~~used for promotions of law enforcement employees within the State Forest and Park~~
12 ~~Service.~~

13 (2) ~~Law enforcement employees of the State Forest and Park Service~~
14 ~~shall be considered eligible for any promotional opportunities in the Natural~~
15 ~~Resources Police.~~

16 (a) This section applies to the implementation of the consolidation of the
17 Natural Resources Police and the Forest and Park Service Rangers in the Forest and
18 Park Service or any successor organization.

19 (b) All employees commissioned as law enforcement officers of the Forest and
20 Park Service pursuant to Title 5, Subtitle 2 of the Natural Resources Article shall
21 retain their law enforcement officer commission and certification for the duration of
22 their employment with the Department of Natural Resources.

23 (c) (1) The classification title of the position of law enforcement officer of the
24 Forest and Park Service at the rank of sergeant and above shall reflect the status of
25 the position as a law enforcement officer.

26 (2) Use of the words sergeant, lieutenant, captain, major, lieutenant
27 colonel, or colonel in the classification title meets the requirements of this paragraph.

28 (d) (1) A law enforcement officer of the Forest and Park Service shall be
29 eligible and considered for any promotional opportunities for positions in the Forest
30 and Park Service, and if selected for a position, shall assume the appropriate law
31 enforcement officer classification title and rank of the officer who most recently held
32 that position.

33 (2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection does not apply to applications for
34 employment or promotional opportunities in the Natural Resources Police. A law
35 enforcement officer of the Forest and Park Service who wishes to apply for a position
36 in the Natural Resources Police shall comply with the hiring requirements of the
37 Natural Resources Police.

1 (e) Except as provided for herein, nothing in this section shall be construed to
2 limit the authority of the Secretary or other official of the Department of Natural
3 Resources to control and manage the Forest and Park Service.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an
5 emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health
6 or safety, has been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the
7 members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take
8 effect from the date it is enacted.