

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2005 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 643 (Frederick County Delegation)  
Environmental Matters Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**Frederick County - County Commissioners - Salaries**

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This bill increases the annual salary of the Frederick County Commissioners from \$30,000 to \$45,000, beginning with the next term of office.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Frederick County expenditures would increase by \$53,100 in FY 2007, and by \$91,000 in FY 2008 and each year thereafter for increased personnel expenditures for the Frederick County Board of County Commissioners. Revenues would not be affected.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The Board of County Commissioners of Frederick County has five members. Salary adjustments for public officials take effect at the beginning of the next term of office, which for the Frederick County Commissioners is December 1, 2006.

**Background:** Frederick County Commissioners are entitled to reimbursement for expenses incurred as a result of their duties. Additionally, county commissioners are entitled to fringe benefits which are regularly provided to county employees.

The salaries of the Frederick County Commissioners were last adjusted by Chapter 81 of 1989, when the salary increased to \$30,000 from \$22,000. **Exhibit 1** shows the current salaries for the county commissioners of Carroll, Frederick, and Washington counties, as well as the salaries for the county council members of Montgomery and Howard counties.

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**Exhibit 1**  
**Salaries for County Commissioners and**  
**County Council Members for Selected Counties**

<u>County</u>	<u>July 2003 Population</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Carroll	163,207	\$45,000
Frederick	213,662	30,000
Howard <sup>1</sup>	264,265	33,800
Montgomery <sup>2</sup>	918,881	76,654
Washington <sup>3</sup>	136,796	30,000

<sup>1</sup>Chairperson receives an additional \$1,000.

<sup>2</sup>Chairperson receives \$84,320.

<sup>3</sup>Board President receives \$33,000.

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**Local Fiscal Effect:** Frederick County expenditures would increase by \$53,088, reflecting the seven-month period from December 2006 through June 2007 for all five commissioners. Expenditures for fiscal 2008, and each year thereafter would increase by \$91,009, assuming constant employer contribution rates for benefits. **Exhibit 2** shows the breakdown of the salary increase and cost for employer contributions for each commissioner's benefits, as well as an aggregate total for all commissioners for fiscal 2007 through fiscal 2010. Benefits are based on a 7.65% contribution rate for Social Security, 0.195% contribution rate for workers' compensation, and a 13.5% contribution for pension, as advised by the county.

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**Exhibit 2**  
**Increased Compensation for Frederick County Board of County Commissioners**  
**Fiscal 2007 – 2010**

<u>Compensation</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
Salary Increase	\$8,750	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Social Security (FICA)	669	1,148	1,148	1,148
Workers Compensation	17	29	29	29
Pension	1,181	2,025	2,025	2,025
Total	10,618	18,202	18,202	18,202
<b>Grand Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$53,088</b>	<b>\$91,009</b>	<b>\$91,009</b>	<b>\$91,009</b>

<sup>1</sup>Reflects compensation for all five members of the Frederick County Board of County Commissioners.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** SB 509 (Senator Brinkley) – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 2, 2005  
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