

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1299

(St. Mary's County Delegation)

Environmental Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

St. Mary's County - Public Officials - Salaries

This bill increases the salaries of certain public officials in St Mary's County including the county treasurer, sheriff, orphan's court judges, board of county commissioners, and board of education members.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: St. Mary's County expenditures would increase by \$35,900 in FY 2007 and by \$114,400 in FY 2011 for increased salary and benefits for county officials. Revenues would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: Salary changes for St. Mary's County public officials are shown in **Exhibit 1**. In addition to their initial salary increase, board of education members will also receive an annual increase of \$250 for each additional year of service.

Current Law: Salary changes for public officials take effect at the beginning of the next term of office. In St. Mary's County, the term of office for county commissioners, the sheriff, treasurer, and orphans' court judges begins in January 2007. The terms of office for the St. Mary's County Board of Education are staggered, with two board members beginning their terms of office on the first Monday in December 2006 and three beginning on the first Monday in December 2008.

Background: The salaries for the St. Mary's Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), sheriff, treasurer, and orphans' court judges were last increased by Chapter 48 of 2002. The BOCC president's salary increased from \$27,000 to \$32,000; the commissioners' salaries increased from \$21,000 to \$27,000; the sheriff's salary increased from \$50,000 to \$68,000; the treasurer's salary increased from \$36,000 to \$42,000; and the orphans' court judges' salaries increased from \$3,000 to \$4,000. Additionally, Chapter 292 of 1996 set the salaries for the board of education members at \$4,000 and the chairman at \$4,300.

BOCC and the board of education in St. Mary's County each consist of five members serving four-year terms.

Local Fiscal Effect: St. Mary's County expenditures would increase by \$35,946 in fiscal 2007 and by \$114,414 in fiscal 2011 for increased salary and benefits for county officials included in this bill. Included in this total is an employer contribution of 7.65% for Social Security, 3% for workers' compensation, and 7.29% for pension contribution, for a total benefits contribution rate of 17.94% as advised by the county. **Exhibit 2** shows the breakdown of the increase in compensation for each position, and **Exhibit 3** shows the total compensation increase for all public officials included in the bill.

This estimate assumes that the benefits rate remains constant. Furthermore, the estimate accounts for the six-month period from January through June 2007 for the salary adjustments for the all non-board of education officials, as well as the December 2006 through June 2007 period for the board of education members elected in 2006, and the December 2008 through June 2009 period for the board of education members elected in 2008. This estimate also assumes that the \$250 annual increase is connected with the position, rather than the incumbent, and that the increase is effective on January 1 of each year.

Legislative Services observes that there could be an issue of equity for the salaries of the members of the board of education. Since salary increases do not take effect until the beginning of the next term of office for public officials, and since the terms for the board of education members are staggered, the salaries of all the members of the board of education will not be equal, as two members' salaries take effect in 2006 and two take effect in 2008. The president's salary increase takes effect in 2008; consequently, for two years, two members of the board of education will receive a higher salary than the chairman.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): St. Mary's County, Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 1, 2005
ncs/hlb

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Exhibit 1
Proposed Salary Changes for St. Mary's County Officials

| <u>Public Official</u> | <u>Calendar Year</u> | <u>Salary</u> | <u>Increase</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| BOCC – President | Current | \$32,000 | |
| | 2007 | 40,000 | \$8,000 |
| | 2008 | 41,000 | 9,000 |
| | 2009 | 42,000 | 10,000 |
| | 2010 | 43,000 | 11,000 |
| BOCC – Commissioner | Current | \$27,000 | |
| | 2007 | 35,000 | 8,000 |
| | 2008 | 36,000 | 9,000 |
| | 2009 | 37,000 | 10,000 |
| | 2010 | 38,000 | 11,000 |
| Treasurer | Current | \$42,000 | |
| | 2007 | 45,000 | 3,000 |
| | 2008 | 46,000 | 4,000 |
| | 2009 | 47,000 | 5,000 |
| | 2010 | 48,000 | 6,000 |
| Sheriff | Current | \$68,000 | |
| | 2007 | 76,000 | 8,000 |
| | 2008 | 78,000 | 10,000 |
| | 2009 | 80,000 | 12,000 |
| | 2010 | 82,000 | 14,000 |
| Orphan's Court Judges | Current | \$4,000 | |
| | 2007 | 6,000 | 2,000 |
| | 2008 | 6,500 | 2,500 |
| | 2009 | 7,000 | 3,000 |
| | 2010 | 7,500 | 3,500 |
| Board of Education – Chair | Current | 4,300 | |
| | Proposed | 7,000 | 2,700 |
| Board of Education – Member | Current | 4,000 | |
| | Proposed | 6,000 | 2,000 |

Exhibit 2
Compensation Changes for St. Mary's County Officials
Fiscal 2007 – 2011

| <u>Public Official</u> | <u>Fiscal Year</u> | <u>Salary Increase</u> | <u>Benefits</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| BOCC – President | 2007 | \$4,000 | \$718 | \$4,718 |
| | 2008 | 8,500 | 1,525 | 10,025 |
| | 2009 | 9,500 | 1,704 | 11,204 |
| | 2010 | 10,500 | 1,884 | 12,384 |
| | 2011 | 11,000 | 1,973 | 12,973 |
| BOCC – Commissioner | 2007 | 4,000 | 718 | 4,718 |
| | 2008 | 8,500 | 1,525 | 10,025 |
| | 2009 | 9,500 | 1,704 | 11,204 |
| | 2010 | 10,500 | 1,884 | 12,384 |
| | 2011 | 11,000 | 1,973 | 12,973 |
| Treasurer | 2007 | 1,500 | 269 | 1,769 |
| | 2008 | 3,500 | 628 | 4,128 |
| | 2009 | 4,500 | 807 | 5,307 |
| | 2010 | 5,500 | 987 | 6,487 |
| | 2011 | 6,000 | 1,076 | 7,076 |
| Sheriff | 2007 | 4,000 | 718 | 4,718 |
| | 2008 | 9,000 | 1,615 | 10,615 |
| | 2009 | 11,000 | 1,973 | 12,973 |
| | 2010 | 13,000 | 2,332 | 15,332 |
| | 2011 | 14,000 | 2,512 | 16,512 |
| Orphan's Court Judges | 2007 | 1,000 | 179 | 1,179 |
| | 2008 | 2,250 | 404 | 2,654 |
| | 2009 | 2,750 | 493 | 3,243 |
| | 2010 | 3,250 | 583 | 3,833 |
| | 2011 | 3,500 | 628 | 4,128 |
| Board of Education – Chair | 2009 | 1,575 | 0 | 1,575 |
| | 2010 | 2,825 | 0 | 2,825 |
| | 2011 | 3,075 | 0 | 3,075 |
| Board of Education – Elected in 2006 | 2007 | 1,167 | 0 | 1,167 |
| | 2008 | 2,125 | 0 | 2,125 |
| | 2009 | 2,375 | 0 | 2,375 |
| | 2010 | 2,625 | 0 | 2,625 |
| | 2011 | 2,875 | 0 | 2,875 |
| Board of Education – Elected in 2008 | 2009 | 1,167 | 0 | 1,167 |
| | 2010 | 2,125 | 0 | 2,125 |
| | 2011 | 2,375 | 0 | 2,375 |

Exhibit 3
St. Mary's County Public Officials – Total Annual Compensation Increase
Fiscal 2007 – 2011

| <u>Public Official</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> | <u>2009</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2011</u> |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| BOCC – President | \$4,718 | \$10,025 | \$11,204 | \$12,384 | \$12,973 |
| BOCC – Commissioner | 18,870 | 40,100 | 44,817 | 49,535 | 51,894 |
| Treasurer | 1,769 | 4,128 | 5,307 | 6,487 | 7,076 |
| Sheriff | 4,718 | 10,615 | 12,973 | 15,332 | 16,512 |
| Orphan's Court Judges | 3,538 | 7,961 | 9,730 | 11,499 | 12,384 |
| Board of Education – Chair | | | 1,575 | 2,825 | 3,075 |
| Board of Education – Member Elected in 2006 | 2,333 | 4,250 | 4,750 | 5,250 | 5,750 |
| Board of Education – Member Elected in 2008 | | | 2,333 | 4,250 | 4,750 |
| Total | \$35,946 | \$77,078 | \$92,691 | \$107,562 | \$114,414 |
