

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 528

(Allegany County Delegation)

Environmental Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental
Affairs

**Allegany County - Salary Study Commission - Recommendations and
Establishment of Recommended Salaries**

This bill requires the Allegany County Salary Study Commission to meet with each person who holds an office for which it makes a salary recommendation in order to (1) acquaint the commission with each official's duties and responsibilities; (2) obtain any additional information the commission may find helpful; and (3) provide the official with an opportunity to express his/her opinion about the appropriate compensation for the office. On or before July 1, 2006, the Allegany County Board of County Commissioners must set by local law the salary for each office included in the salary commission's recommendations.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2006.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill's provisions are procedural in nature and would not directly affect Allegany County finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Allegany County Salary Study Commission consists of seven

members. The Allegany County Commissioners must solicit recommendations from certain organizations for members to be appointed to the salary study commission on or before July 15 every fourth year beginning in 1992. The county commissioners must appoint the salary study commission on or before September 30, every fourth year beginning in 1992. The salary study commission must meet by January 1, every fourth year beginning in 1993, and by January 30 every fourth year, it must make recommendations regarding the salaries of the following Allegany County officials:

- Board of County Commissioners;
- Board of Education members;
- Board of License Commissioners;
- Board of Supervisors of Elections;
- Orphans' Court judges; and
- Allegany County Sheriff.

Within 45 days after receiving the recommendations of the salary study commission, the county commissioners must set by local law, the salary for each office included in the commission's recommendations. The county commissioners may accept, reduce, or reject but may not increase the salary study commission's recommendations.

Background: Based on the time frame prescribed by law, the county commissioners were to solicit recommendations for salary study commission members by July 15, 2004; the salary study commission was to be appointed by September 30, 2004; the salary study commission was to meet by January 1, 2005; and the salary recommendations were to be submitted by January 30, 2005. Allegany County advises that since the time frames prescribed by law were not followed, the county is unable to adjust the salaries of these officials.

The fiscal impact associated with increased salaries for officials for whom the salary study commission makes recommendations depends on the salaries set by the board of county commissioners. Allegany County advises, however, that based on the proposed increases, salary expenditures alone could increase by \$8,850 in fiscal 2007 and by \$27,600 in fiscal 2011 as shown in **Exhibit 1**.

Exhibit 1
Proposed Allegany County Officials' Salary Increases
Fiscal 2007 - 2011

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Total Salary Increase</u>
2007	\$8,850
2008	19,300
2009	22,650
2010	26,000
2011	27,600

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 872 (Senator Hafer) – Senate Rules.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 14, 2006

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