

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Revised

House Bill 1669

(Chairman, Appropriations Committee)

(By Request – Baltimore City Community College)

Appropriations

Judicial Proceedings

Public Safety - Baltimore City Community College Police - Law Enforcement Officer

This departmental bill grants the status of police officer and law enforcement officer to members of the police force of the Baltimore City Community College (BCCC), making them subject to the Law Enforcement Officers’ Bill of Rights and eligible for certification as police officers by the Police Training Commission.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2006.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Higher education expenditures by BCCC increase by \$55,500 in FY 2007 and by \$56,000 in FY 2008. These expenditures cover the cost of training and equipping 10 police officers. The FY 2007 budget includes \$250,000 to pay for training and equipment costs associated with BCCC’s new police force, contingent upon the passage of this bill. Out-year expenditures reflect elimination of certain one-time operating expenses and increasing ongoing operating expenses.

(in dollars)	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Higher Ed Exp.	55,500	56,000	15,500	15,600	15,800
Net Effect	(\$55,500)	(\$56,000)	(\$15,500)	(\$15,600)	(\$15,800)

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: None. BCCC is a State-funded institution.

Small Business Effect: BCCC has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment. (The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill allows the BCCC board of trustees to adopt standards, qualifications, and prerequisites for BCCC police officers in consultation with the Secretary of State Police and the Maryland Police Training Commission (PTC). To the extent practicable, those standards should be similar to those of the State Police. The BCCC board of trustees is also authorized to adopt regulations governing the operation and conduct of BCCC police officers.

Current Law/Background: BCCC security personnel do not have the powers of police officers. To become officers, they must successfully complete police officer training and be granted police officer powers in State law, which this bill would accomplish. The PTC trains and certifies police officers and also approves and certifies police training academies that meet the commission's minimum standards for police officer training. If BCCC's board of trustees opted to develop its own training program for its officers, it would have to meet the commission's standards in order for its officers to have police powers.

State Expenditures: The BCCC security force currently consists of 13 officers, of whom 3 are certified police officers; in fiscal 2007, their total salaries will be \$502,961, and their average salaries will be \$38,689.

Over the next two fiscal years, BCCC seeks to train the 10 officers that have not completed PTC training to become certified police officers. In fiscal 2007, it expects to train and certify half of its 10 existing officers who do not have certification. In fiscal 2008, it expects to train the other half.

In fiscal 2007, higher education expenditures by BCCC increase by approximately \$55,461 to train and equip five police officers. In fiscal 2008, higher education expenditures by BCCC increase by approximately \$56,016 to train and equip the remaining five officers after accounting for a 1% increase in operating expenses. Future year costs reflect ongoing operating expenses; training costs terminate after fiscal 2008.

Additional Comments: BCCC reports that it intends to expand its police officer force by three positions in fiscal 2008 through the State budget process. Those positions are not authorized in this bill. If approved, those three positions would cost an additional \$123,886 in fiscal 2008.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: SB 846 of 2005, a similar bill, did not have a hearing in the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee.

Cross File: None, but SB 819 is similar.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police, Baltimore City, Baltimore City Community College, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 21, 2006
mll/jr Revised - House Third Reader - March 31, 2006
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