CHAPTER 495

(House Bill 330)

AN ACT concerning

St. Mary's County - Assistant Sheriff

FOR the purpose of replacing the rank of Captain with that of Assistant Sheriff in the Sheriff's Office of St. Mary's County; and generally relating to the Sheriff's Office of St. Mary's County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, The Public Local Laws of St. Mary's County Section 120–2 A.(1) and B. Article 19 – Public Local Laws of Maryland (2007 Edition, as amended)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 19 - St. Mary's County

120-2.

- A. (1) Except for the Sheriff, all personnel of the Sheriff's office shall participate in the merit system of St. Mary's County and shall be hired and governed by the rules of that system. [A Captain] **AN ASSISTANT SHERIFF** appointed by the Sheriff in accordance with Subsection B of this section shall participate in the merit system except to the extent that the rules of that system conflict with the provisions of Subsection B of this section.
- B. (1) Subject to the qualifications under Paragraph (3) of this subsection, the Sheriff may appoint, without examination, [a Captain] AN ASSISTANT SHERIFF, who shall serve in that position at the pleasure of the Sheriff.
- (2) The County Commissioners shall set the salary of the [Captain] ASSISTANT SHERIFF.
- (3) Only a deputy sheriff who holds the permanent rank of Sergeant or Lieutenant in the St. Mary's County Sheriff's office is eligible for appointment to [Captain] **ASSISTANT SHERIFF**.
- (4) While serving as [Captain] **ASSISTANT SHERIFF**, an individual may participate.

- (a) In the Sheriff's office retirement plan.
- (b) In the competitive promotional process for the next rank above the individual's permanent rank.
- (5) When the appointment of the [Captain] ASSISTANT SHERIFF ends, the [Captain] ASSISTANT SHERIFF shall return to the rank held before being appointed to [Captain] ASSISTANT SHERIFF or, if the [Captain] ASSISTANT SHERIFF qualified for a higher rank while serving as [Captain] ASSISTANT SHERIFF, to the higher rank.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2008.

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2008.