

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2015 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 618

(Senator Norman)

Judicial Proceedings

Judiciary

Public Safety - Retired Law Enforcement Officer Identification Card

This bill requires a law enforcement agency to provide a retiring law enforcement officer with an identification card within 45 days after the officer's retirement from the agency if the officer (1) meets specified requirements and (2) pays the fee set by the issuing agency.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures for the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services increase by \$1,400 in FY 2016 only to purchase software necessary to create the cards. For other State law enforcement agencies not already issuing such cards, it is assumed that the cost of creating and issuing identification cards is passed on to retirees. Thus, any minimal increase in costs is offset by fee revenues. Most State law enforcement agencies report that the cost to issue new cards or upgrade current cards can be handled with existing resources.

Local Effect: For local law enforcement agencies not already issuing such cards, it is assumed that the cost of creating and issuing identification cards is passed on to retirees. Thus, any minimal increase in costs is offset by fee revenues.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: If a law enforcement officer retired before October 1, 2015, on request of the retired officer, the law enforcement agency from which the officer retired must provide a qualifying officer with an identification card within 60 days after the officer makes the request.

A law enforcement agency may charge a reasonable fee for each identification card or replacement card. The fee may not exceed \$20.

To qualify for an identification card, a law enforcement officer:

- must have retired in good standing as a law enforcement officer for reasons other than mental instability; and
- before retirement, must have been certified by the Police Training Commission (PTC), had statutory arrest powers in Maryland, and completed an applicable probationary period.

An identification card issued pursuant to the bill must be in the form approved by PTC and include:

- the caption “Retired Law Enforcement Officer” printed on the front of the card;
- a photograph of the retired officer whose name appears on the card;
- the name of the retired officer;
- the name of the agency that issued the card;
- the date the card was issued and a statement that the card does not expire; and
- the following statement: “This card is the property of the issuing law enforcement agency.”

Current Law: Generally, law enforcement agencies in the United States already provide retirees with retirement identification cards.

The Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 and 2010 allows federal, state, and local police retirees to carry firearms with their issued retiree identification cards and with certification that they successfully completed annual firearms training at their own cost. The retirees may carry the firearms anywhere in the United States.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Carroll, Harford, Montgomery, Queen Anne's, and St. Mary's counties; Department of Natural Resources; Department of General Services; Department of State Police; Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Maryland Department of Transportation; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 22, 2015
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