

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

House Bill 682 (St. Mary's County Delegation)  
Environment and Transportation

Judicial Proceedings

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St. Mary's County - Sheriff, County Treasurer, and State's Attorney - Salaries

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This bill increases, beginning in calendar 2018, the salary of the St. Mary's County Sheriff by establishing that the salary is equal to the salary of a Department of State Police (DSP) Lieutenant Colonel (Step 12). The bill also increases the salary of the State's Attorney in St. Mary's County by establishing that the salary is equal to the salary of a circuit court judge. Finally, the bill increases to \$63,000 the salary of the Treasurer of St. Mary's County. Pursuant to constitutional requirements, the salary increases take effect at the beginning of the next terms of offices.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** St. Mary's County expenditures increase by approximately \$38,000 in FY 2019 and by approximately \$76,000 annually thereafter. Local revenues are not affected.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law/Background:** The salary of the Sheriff of St. Mary's County is set at \$104,040 for calendar 2017 and \$106,120 for calendar 2018. The State's Attorney for St. Mary's County receives a salary of \$127,200, which is equal to 90% of the salary of a judge of the District Court (set at \$141,333). **Exhibit 1** shows the salary for the state's attorney and sheriff in each county based on fiscal 2017 data, as provided by the Maryland Association of Counties. The annual salary of the County Treasurer of St. Mary's County is set at \$51,005 for calendar 2017 and \$51,515 for calendar 2018. Not all counties have a

county treasurer (which is an elected position); however, **Exhibit 2** shows fiscal 2017 salary information for those that do.

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**Exhibit 1**  
**State's Attorney and Sheriff Salaries**  
**Fiscal 2017**

<u>County</u>	<u>State's Attorney</u>	<u>Sheriff</u>
Allegany	\$125,307	\$70,000
Anne Arundel	175,634	132,999
Baltimore City	238,772	132,600
Baltimore	204,187	90,000
Calvert	122,850	90,480
Caroline	113,066	80,000
Carroll	113,067	90,001
Cecil	134,267	75,075
Charles	140,352	124,387
Dorchester	113,066	89,500
Frederick	154,333	125,000
Garrett	113,066	85,000
Harford	115,423	117,645
Howard	141,333	91,000
Kent	109,200	85,000
Montgomery	206,476	159,786
Prince George's	199,000	154,333
Queen Anne's	132,000	132,000
St. Mary's	127,200	102,000
Somerset	98,000	60,000
Talbot	113,066	79,567
Washington	114,527	88,000
Wicomico	122,850	95,000
Worcester	122,850	88,000

Source: Maryland Association of Counties

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**Exhibit 2**  
**Treasurer Salaries**  
**Selected Counties**  
**Fiscal 2017**

<u>County</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Calvert	\$52,020
Charles	101,374
Harford	127,500
St. Mary's	50,500
Washington	68,333

Source: Maryland Association of Counties

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Article III, § 35 of the Maryland Constitution prohibits the salary or compensation of any public officer from being increased or diminished during the individual's term of office, except those whose full term is fixed by law in excess of four years.

**Local Expenditures:** St. Mary's County expenditures increase by \$38,011 in fiscal 2019 and by \$76,021 annually thereafter. Although the bill specifies that the salaries of the Sheriff and the Treasurer are for calendar 2018, pursuant to constitutional requirements, the salaries are not altered until the next terms of offices, which are estimated to commence in January 2019. Accordingly, the estimate accounts for all increases taking effect in January 2019, includes fringe benefits, and is based on the current salaries for a lieutenant colonel of DSP at Step 12 (\$128,219) and circuit court judge (\$154,433).

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** Although designated as a cross file, SB 298 (Senator Waugh - Judicial Proceedings) is not identical.

**Information Source(s):** St. Mary's County; Maryland Association of Counties; Department of State Police; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 3, 2017  
md/kdm Third Reader - March 21, 2017

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