

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2017 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader - Revised**

Senate Bill 544

(Baltimore City Senators)

Judicial Proceedings

Rules and Executive Nominations

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**Baltimore City - Office of the Baltimore City Sheriff - Positions**

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This bill authorizes the Baltimore City Sheriff to (1) create a sheriff's office pay scale, as specified and (2) appoint an information technology specialist, a chief financial officer, and deputy sheriffs (who have served for five or more years), to specified ranks. It also authorizes, subject to the annual budget for Baltimore City, each deputy sheriff to receive an additional expense allowance of up to \$200 annually.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Baltimore City expenditures *may* increase by at least \$392,600 annually to the extent that additional expenditures for the sheriff's office are not absorbable in any fiscal year and under the assumptions discussed below. However, it is anticipated that expenditures are absorbable within existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Bill Summary:** The bill authorizes the Baltimore City Sheriff to create an office pay scale for the employees of the sheriff's office, other than the sheriff, which may meet or exceed specified salary equivalents as set forth in current law but may not exceed the sheriff's total budget, as provided by the annual ordinance of estimates of Baltimore City.

The Baltimore City Sheriff may also appoint (1) an information technology specialist at the rank of captain, who must assess and manage the technology needs of the sheriff's office and (2) a chief financial officer at the rank of major, who must manage the budget of the sheriff's office, grants, and the revenue collected by the sheriff's office. The

Baltimore City Sheriff may also appoint any deputy sheriff who has been employed by the office for five years or more to the honorary rank of deputy sheriff corporal. Individuals at this honorary rank who maintain a satisfactory performance evaluation for each rating period must receive a salary increase of \$1,000 annually.

**Current Law:** The Baltimore City Sheriff must appoint (1) an undersheriff or chief deputy sheriff; (2) one assistant sheriff; (3) three deputy sheriff majors; (4) three deputy sheriff captains; (5) six deputy sheriff lieutenants; (6) one secretary sheriff; and (7) one fiscal clerk sheriff.

The Sheriff may appoint up to a maximum of (1) 9 deputy sheriff sergeants; (2) 103 deputy sheriffs; (3) 2 domestic violence clerks; and (4) 2 domestic violence advocates.

Except for deputy sheriffs, deputy sheriff sergeants, and deputy sheriff lieutenants, salaries for these employees must be set by the Secretary of Budget and Management. Salaries for deputy sheriffs must be set at a rate at least equivalent to grade 14 of the State pay scale. Salaries for deputy sheriff sergeants must be set at a rate at least equivalent to grade 16 of the State pay scale. Salaries for deputy sheriff lieutenants must be set at a rate at least equivalent to grade 18 of the State pay scale.

In addition to any other compensation received, each deputy sheriff must receive an expense allowance of \$400 annually for (1) ammunition for practice sessions at the range; (2) clothing allowance to defray the cost of dry cleaning and maintaining the clothing worn while on duty; and (3) the purchase and maintenance of other items necessary to fulfill duties that currently are not furnished by the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office.

**Local Fiscal Effect:** Potential expenditures associated with this bill are anticipated at \$255,600 in fiscal 2018 and at least \$392,600 annually thereafter. This estimate assumes that the Sheriff appoints individuals to the authorized positions and, therefore, includes salaries and fringe benefits for the two new positions (beginning October 1, 2017). It also assumes that the maximum increase for the additional expense allowance for 103 deputy sheriffs and the \$1,000 in salary increases for the deputy sheriff corporal positions (estimated at 88 impacted positions per year) are authorized and provided in fiscal 2018, and reflects the impact of incremental salary increases of \$1,000 annually over current funding levels. The Baltimore City Sheriff's Office advises that these expenditures can be absorbed within existing resources of the sheriff's office in fiscal 2018 and likely thereafter, without requiring additional funding from Baltimore City. To the extent that expenditures are not absorbable in any future years, Baltimore City expenditures for the sheriff's office may increase by at least \$392,600 annually. However, because the bill states that the additional expense allowance (estimated at up to \$20,600 annually) is subject to the annual budget for Baltimore City and authorizes, but does not require, appointments of individuals to specified ranks, potential expenditures for Baltimore City may be significantly less.

## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 671 (Delegate Anderson, *et al.*) - Environment and Transportation.

**Information Source(s):** Baltimore City; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 3, 2017  
mm/kdm Third Reader - April 6, 2017  
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