

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

House Bill 439 (Delegate Otto)

Environment and Transportation

Judicial Proceedings

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Somerset County - State's Attorney - Annual Salary

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This bill increases, from \$98,000 to \$113,066, the salary of the Somerset County State's Attorney. Pursuant to constitutional requirements, the salary increase takes effect at the beginning of the next term of office.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Somerset County expenditures increase by approximately \$8,900 in FY 2019 and by approximately \$17,900 annually thereafter. Local revenues are not affected.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law/Background:** The Somerset County State's Attorney receives an annual salary of \$98,000. **Exhibit 1** shows the salary for the State's Attorney in each county based on fiscal 2017 data, as provided by the Maryland Association of Counties.

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

<b>County</b>	<b>Salary</b>
Allegany	\$125,307
Anne Arundel	175,634
Baltimore City	238,772
Baltimore	204,187
Calvert	122,850
Caroline	113,066
Carroll	113,067
Cecil	134,267
Charles	140,352
Dorchester	113,066
Frederick	154,333
Garrett	113,066
Harford	115,423
Howard	141,333
Kent	109,200
Montgomery	206,476
Prince George's	199,000
Queen Anne's	132,000
St. Mary's	127,200
Somerset	98,000
Talbot	113,066
Washington	114,527
Wicomico	122,850
Worcester	122,850

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:** County expenditures increase by \$8,928 in fiscal 2019 and by \$17,856 annually thereafter. The estimate accounts for the salary increase taking effect in January 2019, the beginning of the next term of office, and includes fringe benefits.

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## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** SB 136 of 2016, a similar bill, was withdrawn after being heard in the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee. Its cross file, HB 152, was also withdrawn.

**Cross File:** SB 246 (Senator Mathias) - Judicial Proceedings.

**Information Source(s):** Somerset County; Maryland Association of Counties; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 30, 2017  
md/kdm Third Reader - March 14, 2017

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