

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1179 (Delegate Sophocleus, *et al.*)
Environment and Transportation

Anne Arundel County - State's Attorney - Annual Salary

This bill alters the salary of the Anne Arundel County State's Attorney by decreasing, from 3% to 2%, the percentage by which the annual salary must be increased each calendar year. Pursuant to constitutional requirements, the salary change takes effect at the beginning of the next term of office.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Anne Arundel County expenditures decrease by at least \$900 in FY 2019 and by a minimum of \$2,800 annually thereafter. Local revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: Chapter 168 of 2000 established that for calendar 2003, the salary of the Anne Arundel County State's Attorney must be equal to the salary of a circuit court judge as of December 31, 2002. Chapter 168 also required the salary to be increased each calendar year by 3% over the salary for the prior calendar year. Accordingly, in calendar 2017, the State's Attorney's salary is \$180,903. **Exhibit 1** shows the salary for the State's Attorney in other counties based on fiscal 2017 data, as provided by the Maryland Association of Counties.

Exhibit 1
State's Attorney Salaries
Fiscal 2017

County	Salary
Allegany	\$125,307
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

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. According to a Letter from the Counsel to the General Assembly, dated January 17, 1978, salary increases that are to be implemented over a period of time are permissible if implemented before the beginning of the term.

Local Expenditures: County expenditures decrease by at least \$932 in fiscal 2019 and by at least \$2,842 annually thereafter. The estimate accounts for the reduction in the annual percentage salary increase taking effect in January 2019, the beginning of the next term of office, and does not includes fringe benefits.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 1136 (Senator Oaks) - Rules.

Information Source(s): Anne Arundel County; Maryland Association of Counties; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 17, 2017
mm/kdm

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