

# SENATE BILL 701

E5, E4

3lr0027

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By: **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Departmental – Public Safety and Correctional Services)**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Correctional Officers – Age Requirement**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the age requirement for employment as a correctional officer  
4 in any unit of the Division of Correction, any unit of the Division of Pretrial Detention  
5 and Services, or the Patuxent Institution; and generally relating to correctional  
6 officers.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Correctional Services

9 Section 2–109

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
13 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – Correctional Services**

15 2–109.

16 (a) The Secretary shall adopt regulations for the office of the Secretary.

17 (b) (1) The Secretary shall review regulations proposed by a unit in the  
18 Department.

19 (2) The Secretary may approve, disapprove, or revise regulations proposed  
20 by a unit in the Department.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Secretary  
2 shall adopt regulations to govern the policies and management of correctional facilities in  
3 the Department in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 1 of the State Government Article.

4 (2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection does not apply to a guideline pertaining  
5 to the routine internal management of correctional facilities in the Division of Correction.

6 (3) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the Secretary  
7 shall adopt regulations that provide for a requirement that:

8 1. a correctional officer hired on or after October 1, [2007]  
9 **2023**, for employment in any unit of the Division of Correction shall be at least [21] **19**  
10 years old; and

11 2. a correctional officer hired on or after October 1, [2008]  
12 **2023**, for employment in any unit of the Division of Pretrial Detention and Services or the  
13 Patuxent Institution shall be at least [21] **19** years old.

14 (ii) The regulations adopted under subparagraph (i) of this  
15 paragraph shall exempt any honorably discharged veteran or reserve member of the United  
16 States armed forces from the minimum age requirement.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 October 1, 2023.