

# SENATE BILL 972

P6

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CF HB 1005

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By: **Senator Guzzone**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2024

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Correctional Officers' Retirement System – Membership**

3 FOR the purpose of altering membership in the Correctional Officers' Retirement System  
4 to include certain employees of the Maryland Department of Health; making  
5 members transferred to the Correctional Officers' Retirement System under this Act  
6 eligible to receive creditable service for unused sick leave accrued by the member in  
7 the State Employees' Retirement System or State Employees' Pension System;  
8 providing for the calculation of a certain benefit from the Correctional Officers'  
9 Retirement System for individuals serving in certain positions on or before a certain  
10 date; requiring the State Retirement and Pension System to transfer the creditable  
11 service of employees transferred into the Correctional Officers' Retirement System  
12 under this Act unless the employee elects not to transfer service on or before a certain  
13 date; requiring the Board of Trustees for the State Retirement and Pension System  
14 to calculate a certain disability benefit for certain individuals and to grant a certain  
15 benefit under certain circumstances; and generally relating to membership in the  
16 Correctional Officers' Retirement System.

17 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
18 Article – State Personnel and Pensions  
19 Section 20–206(a)  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
23 Article – State Personnel and Pensions  
24 Section 20–206(g), 25–201, and 25–401  
25 Annotated Code of Maryland  
26 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



**Article – State Personnel and Pensions**

1  
2 20–206.

3 (a) In this section, “unused sick leave” means sick leave credit that:

4 (1) has not been used before retirement; and

5 (2) was available to the member to be used as sick leave during  
6 employment.

7 (g) (1) This subsection applies to a member of the Correctional Officers’  
8 Retirement System who:

9 (i) was a member of the Employees’ Pension System or Employees’  
10 Retirement System and was transferred from the Employees’ Pension System or  
11 Employees’ Retirement System to the Correctional Officers’ Retirement System as a result  
12 of a change in membership within the several systems that rendered the individual  
13 ineligible for membership in the Employees’ Pension System or the Employees’ Retirement  
14 System;

15 (ii) did not transfer service credit from the Employees’ Pension  
16 System or the Employees’ Retirement System to the Correctional Officers’ Retirement  
17 System; and

18 (iii) 1. retires under § 25–401 of this article, and receives a vested  
19 benefit from the Employees’ Pension System or the Employees’ Retirement System;

20 2. retires under §§ 22–401, 22–402, 23–401, or 23–402 of this  
21 article, and receives a vested benefit from the Correctional Officers’ Retirement System for  
22 service earned on or after July 1, 2016; or

23 3. retires with a vested benefit from the Employees’ Pension  
24 System or Employees’ Retirement System, and earned service in the Correctional Officers’  
25 Retirement System on or after July 1, 2016, for which the individual is not eligible for a  
26 benefit.

27 (2) Subject to paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection, a member is  
28 entitled to receive creditable service for the total amount of unused sick leave accrued by  
29 the member at the time of retirement.

30 (3) (i) This paragraph applies to an individual described under item  
31 (1)(iii)1 or 2 of this subsection.

1 (ii) The creditable service for unused sick leave shall be calculated  
2 for each of the two State systems by multiplying the total amount of unused sick leave,  
3 calculated in accordance with subsection (e) of this section, by a fraction:

4 1. the numerator of which is the creditable service earned in  
5 the State system, not including the creditable service for unused sick leave; and

6 2. the denominator of which is the total creditable service  
7 earned in both State systems, not including the creditable service for unused sick leave.

8 (4) (i) This paragraph applies to an individual described under item  
9 (1)(iii)3 of this subsection.

10 (ii) An individual's retirement benefit from the Employees' Pension  
11 System or Employees' Retirement System shall be adjusted to include any credit for unused  
12 sick leave that the individual accrued in the Employees' Pension System or Employees'  
13 Retirement System prior to becoming a member of the Correctional Officers' Retirement  
14 System:

15 1. on or after July 1, 2016, in a position included under §  
16 25-201(a)(7) of this article;

17 2. on or after July 1, 2017, in a position included under §  
18 25-201(a)(8) or (9) of this article;

19 3. on or after July 1, 2018, in a position included under §  
20 25-201(a)(10) or (11) of this article; [or]

21 4. on or after July 1, 2022, in a position included under §  
22 25-201(a)(12) of this article; OR

23 **5. ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2024, IN A POSITION INCLUDED**  
24 **UNDER § 25-201(A)(13) OF THIS ARTICLE.**

25 25-201.

26 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this subtitle applies only  
27 to:

28 (1) correctional officers serving in any of the first six job classifications;

29 (2) security attendants at Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center;

30 (3) a detention center officer employed by a participating governmental  
31 unit that on or after July 1, 2006, has elected to participate in the Correctional Officers'  
32 Retirement System;

1 (4) an individual serving as a correctional dietary, maintenance, laundry,  
2 or supply officer;

3 (5) an individual serving as a Maryland Correctional Enterprises officer,  
4 officer trainee, plant supervisor, plant manager, or regional manager;

5 (6) a correctional officer serving as a security chief, a facility administrator,  
6 an assistant warden, or a warden who:

7 (i) begins employment in that position on or after July 1, 2014; or

8 (ii) is serving in that position on June 30, 2014, and elects to transfer  
9 to the Correctional Officers' Retirement System from:

10 1. the Employees' Pension System on or before December 31,  
11 2014; or

12 2. the Employees' Retirement System on or before December  
13 31, 2015;

14 (7) an individual serving as a correctional case management specialist,  
15 supervisor, or manager on or after July 1, 2016;

16 (8) an individual serving as a parole and probation agent, supervisor, or  
17 regional administrator on or after July 1, 2017;

18 (9) an individual serving as a Department of Public Safety and  
19 Correctional Services employee in one of the following positions on or after July 1, 2017:

20 (i) an alcohol and drug:

21 1. associate counselor, counselor lead, counselor provisional,  
22 or counselor supervisor;

23 2. professional counselor, counselor provisional, or counselor  
24 supervisor; or

25 3. supervised counselor or counselor provisional;

26 (ii) a mental health professional counselor, graduate professional  
27 counselor, professional counselor advanced, or professional supervisor;

28 (iii) a psychologist, psychology associate, or psychology associate  
29 doctorate;

30 (iv) a social worker, social worker advanced, social worker  
31 supervisor, or social work regional supervisor; or

1 (v) a recreation officer or supervisor;

2 (10) an individual serving as a Department of Juvenile Services employee  
3 in one of the following positions on or after July 1, 2018:

4 (i) a community detention officer or community detention  
5 supervisor;

6 (ii) a youth transportation officer, youth transportation officer lead,  
7 youth transportation officer supervisor, or youth transportation officer trainee;

8 (iii) a resident advisor, resident advisor lead, resident advisor  
9 supervisor, or resident advisor trainee; or

10 (iv) a youth recreation specialist;

11 (11) an individual serving as a Department of Public Safety and  
12 Correctional Services employee in one of the following positions on or after July 1, 2018:

13 (i) a parole and probation assistant regional administrator;

14 (ii) a psychology services chief;

15 (iii) a correctional maintenance officer supervisor;

16 (iv) a correctional maintenance officer manager;

17 (v) a correctional maintenance services officer;

18 (vi) a correctional maintenance services supervisor; or

19 (vii) a correctional maintenance services manager; [and]

20 (12) an individual serving as a Department of Juvenile Services employee  
21 in one of the following positions on or after July 1, 2022:

22 (i) a case management specialist I, II, or III;

23 (ii) a case management specialist supervisor;

24 (iii) a case management specialist program supervisor; or

25 (iv) a group life manager I or II; **AND**

1           **(13) AN INDIVIDUAL SERVING AS A MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF**  
 2 **HEALTH EMPLOYEE IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ON OR AFTER JULY 1,**  
 3 **2024:**

4           **(I) A CAMH ASSOCIATE – CI;**

5           **(II) A DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY ASSOCIATE – CI;**

6           **(III) A DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT – CI;**

7           **(IV) A LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE – CI;**

8           **(V) A RESIDENT ASSOCIATE SETT – CI; OR**

9           **(VI) A SECURITY ATTENDANT.**

10          (b) This subtitle does not apply to:

11           (1) an employee of the Baltimore City Jail as of June 30, 1991, who:

12           (i) became an employee of the Baltimore City Detention Center on  
 13 July 1, 1991; and

14           (ii) did not elect to become a member of the Correctional Officers'  
 15 Retirement System on that date;

16           (2) a detention center officer employed by a participating governmental  
 17 unit as a local detention center officer on the effective date of participation on or after July  
 18 1, 2006, who did not elect to become a member of the Correctional Officers' Retirement  
 19 System within 6 months of the effective date of participation; or

20           (3) a correctional officer serving as a security chief, a facility administrator,  
 21 an assistant warden, or a warden who is in that position on June 30, 2014, and does not  
 22 elect to transfer membership to the Correctional Officers' Retirement System from:

23           (i) the Employees' Pension System on or before December 31, 2014;  
 24 or

25           (ii) the Employees' Retirement System on or before December 31,  
 26 2015.

27 25–401.

28          (a) A member may retire with a normal service retirement allowance if:

29           (1) on or before the date of retirement, the member:

- 1 (i) has at least 20 years of eligibility service;
- 2 (ii) 1. is a correctional case management specialist, supervisor,  
3 or manager on or before June 30, 2016;
- 4 2. is vested in the Correctional Officers' Retirement System;  
5 and
- 6 3. has a combined total of at least 20 years of eligibility  
7 service from:
- 8 A. the Correctional Officers' Retirement System and the  
9 Employees' Retirement System; or
- 10 B. the Correctional Officers' Retirement System and the  
11 Employees' Pension System;
- 12 (iii) 1. is serving in a position specified in:
- 13 A. § 25–201(a)(8) or (9) of this title on or before June 30, 2017;
- 14 B. § 25–201(a)(10) or (11) of this title on or before June 30,  
15 2018; [or]
- 16 C. § 25–201(a)(12) of this title on or before June 30, 2022; **OR**
- 17 **D. § 25–201(A)(13) OF THIS TITLE ON OR BEFORE JUNE**  
18 **30, 2024;**
- 19 2. is vested in the Correctional Officers' Retirement System;  
20 and
- 21 3. has a combined total of at least 20 years of eligibility  
22 service from:
- 23 A. the Correctional Officers' Retirement System and the  
24 Employees' Retirement System; or
- 25 B. the Correctional Officers' Retirement System and the  
26 Employees' Pension System; or
- 27 (iv) is at least 55 years old and has:
- 28 1. at least 5 years of eligibility service credit, if the member  
29 is a member on or before June 30, 2011; or

1                                   2.       at least 10 years of eligibility service credit, if the member  
2 becomes a member on or after July 1, 2011; and

3                                   (2)       the member completes and submits a written application to the Board  
4 of Trustees stating the date when the member desires to retire.

5                                   (b)       (1)       Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, on retirement  
6 under this section, a member is entitled to receive a normal service retirement allowance  
7 that equals one fifty–fifth of the member’s average final compensation multiplied by the  
8 number of years of creditable service.

9                                   (2)       On retirement under this section, if a member’s annuity is greater than  
10 the member’s normal service retirement allowance calculated under paragraph (1) of this  
11 subsection, the member’s normal service retirement allowance shall equal the member’s  
12 annuity.

13                                  (c)       (1)       This subsection applies only to:

14   (i)       a correctional case management specialist, supervisor, or  
15 manager who has a combined total of 20 years of eligibility service as provided in subsection  
16 (a)(1)(ii) of this section; or

17   (ii)       a member serving in a position specified in § 25–201(a)(8), (9),  
18 (10), (11), [or] (12), **OR (13)** of this title who has a combined total of 20 years of eligibility  
19 service as provided in subsection (a)(1)(iii) of this section.

20                                   (2)       A member is entitled to receive a normal service retirement allowance  
21 that equals an allowance based on the creditable service the member has in the  
22 Correctional Officers’ Retirement System.

23                                  SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That § 37–203(f)(3) of the State  
24 Personnel and Pensions Article does not apply to an individual who transfers service credit  
25 to the Correctional Officers’ Retirement System under Title 37 of the State Personnel and  
26 Pensions Article in accordance with this Act.

27                                  SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

28   (a)       Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, on June 30, 2025,  
29 the Board of Trustees for the State Retirement and Pension System shall transfer from the  
30 Employees’ Retirement System or Employees’ Pension System to the Correctional Officers’  
31 Retirement System the service of an individual who was transferred into the Correctional  
32 Officers’ Retirement System under this Act.

33   (b)       On or before June 1, 2025, an individual who was transferred into the  
34 Correctional Officers’ Retirement System under this Act may elect not to transfer the  
35 individual’s Employees’ Retirement System or Employees’ Pension System service to the  
36 Correctional Officers’ Retirement System by submitting to the Board of Trustees for the



1 State Retirement and Pension System a form provided by the State Retirement Agency for  
2 the purpose of electing not to transfer service under this Act.

3 (c) If an individual who was transferred into the Correctional Officers'  
4 Retirement System under this Act submits an application for retirement to retire before  
5 June 30, 2025, the Board of Trustees for the State Retirement and Pension System shall  
6 transfer the individual's service from the Employees' Retirement System or the Employees'  
7 Pension System to the Correctional Officers' Retirement System prior to the effective date  
8 of retirement, unless the individual elects not to transfer the individual's service in  
9 accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

10 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

11 (a) This section applies to an individual who has service from the Employees'  
12 Retirement System or Employees' Pension System transferred into the Correctional  
13 Officers' Retirement System under this Act.

14 (b) If an individual described under subsection (a) of this section is granted an  
15 ordinary disability benefit under Title 29, Subtitle 1 of the State Personnel and Pensions  
16 Article, the Board of Trustees for the State Retirement and Pension System shall calculate  
17 the ordinary disability benefit under §§ 29–106 and 29–108 of the State Personnel and  
18 Pensions Article and grant the greater benefit to the individual.

19 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
20 1, 2024. Section 3 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of  
21 June 30, 2025, Section 3 of this Act, with no further action required by the General  
22 Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.