

Chapter 134

(Senate Bill 74)

AN ACT concerning

Public Safety – Police Employees and Deputy State Fire Marshals – Repeal of Pay Rate Restriction on Promotion

FOR the purpose of repealing a requirement that a certain police employee or deputy State fire marshal is entitled to a certain pay rate on promotion to a higher rank if a certain other police employee or deputy State fire marshal in the same rank is at a lower pay rate; and generally relating to the pay rates of police employees and deputy State fire marshals.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Public Safety

Section 2–405

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

Article – Public Safety

2–405.

(a) (1) The Secretary shall develop a pay plan for police employees, State Police communications operators, and State Police communications supervisors that includes the ranks and the grades within ranks that the Secretary considers appropriate.

(2) The pay plan under this subsection:

(i) is subject to approval by the Secretary of Budget and Management; and

(ii) is effective on approval by the Governor only to the extent that sufficient money is included in the State budget.

(b) Each police employee, State Police communications operator, and State Police communications supervisor is entitled to receive the pay rate, including any increment based on length of service, set forth in the pay plan established under subsection (a) of this section.

(c) (1) Each police employee is entitled to the pay rate for the next highest step within the police employee's rank on:

- 1, 1967; or
- (i) each July 1, if the police employee was a police employee on July 1, 1967; or
- (ii) each anniversary of the date of employment, for all other police employees.

(2) [(i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, on] **ON** promotion a police employee or a deputy State fire marshal is entitled to the pay specified for the new rank in the same step that the police employee or deputy State fire marshal occupied before promotion.

[(ii) If the step that the police employee or deputy State fire marshal occupied before promotion is higher than that held by a police employee or deputy State fire marshal who is already in the rank and has equal or higher total service time, on promotion the police employee or deputy State fire marshal is entitled only to the pay specified for the new rank in the next lower step than the police employee or deputy State fire marshal occupied before promotion.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, April 14, 2026.