

Chapter 345

(House Bill 744)

AN ACT concerning

Correctional Officers' Retirement System – Dorchester County

FOR the purpose of requiring membership in the Correctional Officers' Retirement System for certain local detention center officers of Dorchester County in the event Dorchester County becomes a participating governmental unit in the Correctional Officers' Retirement System; providing that certain local detention center officers who join the Correctional Officers' Retirement System and receive certain service credit shall no longer be members of the Employees' Pension System; and generally relating to Dorchester County's participation in the Correctional Officers' Retirement System.

BY adding to

Article – State Personnel and Pensions

Section 31–2B–09

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2024 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 – State Personnel and Pensions**31–2B–09.**

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A LOCAL DETENTION CENTER OFFICER OF DORCHESTER COUNTY BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE DATE AND WHO REMAINS A LOCAL DETENTION CENTER OFFICER OF DORCHESTER COUNTY THROUGH THE EFFECTIVE DATE.

(B) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, IF DORCHESTER COUNTY BECOMES A PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTAL UNIT IN THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM, MEMBERSHIP IN THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM IS MANDATORY FOR AN INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.

(C) IF DORCHESTER COUNTY COMMENCES PARTICIPATION IN THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION IS ENTITLED TO ELIGIBILITY SERVICE AND CREDITABLE

SERVICE IN THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH DORCHESTER COUNTY BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE DATE.

(D) ON JOINING THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND RECEIVING SERVICE CREDIT AS PROVIDED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL:

(1) NO LONGER BE A MEMBER OF THE EMPLOYEES' PENSION SYSTEM; AND

(2) HAVE NO FURTHER RIGHTS TO ANY BENEFIT IN THE EMPLOYEES' PENSION SYSTEM.

(E) THE TRANSFER OF CREDITABLE SERVICE FOR AN INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE EMPLOYEES' PENSION SYSTEM THROUGH THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AND WHO TRANSFERS TO THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM UNDER THIS SECTION, IS NOT GOVERNED BY TITLE 37 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(F) IF DORCHESTER COUNTY BECOMES A PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTAL UNIT IN THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM, § 31-2B-05(C) OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL GOVERN THE TRANSFER AND CREDITING OF ASSETS ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

Approved by the Governor, April 28, 2026.