

HOUSE BILL 1152

E4

6lr2173

By: **Delegate Williams**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2026

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of State Police – Special Police Officers – Study**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of State Police to conduct a certain study
4 regarding special police officers; and generally relating to special police officers.

5 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
6 That:

7 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

8 (2) “Department” means the Department of State Police.

9 (3) “Special police officer” has the meaning stated in § 3–301 of the Public
10 Safety Article.

11 (b) The Department shall study and make recommendations on the employment
12 and use of special police officers, including:

13 (1) the commissioning process;

14 (2) employment requirements;

15 (3) special police operations, training, and equipment;

16 (4) the jurisdiction of special police officers; and

17 (5) regulatory oversight to suspend or revoke the commission of special
18 police officers.

19 (c) In conducting the study required under subsection (b) of this section, the
20 Department shall:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (1) survey and document the licensing of and regulatory requirements for
2 special police officers and the equivalent in surrounding states; and

3 (2) analyze best practices for the use of special police officers by public and
4 private employers in the State and surrounding states by considering:

5 (i) the number of special police officers in the State and surrounding
6 states;

7 (ii) mandated training for special police officers, including firearms
8 training;

9 (iii) the impact of the use of special police officers on public safety;
10 and

11 (iv) recorded complaints.

12 (d) In carrying out the study, the Department shall consult with:

13 (1) special police officers;

14 (2) employers of special police officers, including local or county
15 governments that employ special police officers;

16 (3) a representative of the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association;

17 (4) a representative of the Maryland Sheriffs' Association;

18 (5) a representative of the Maryland State Police Licensing Division;

19 (6) a representative of the Maryland State's Attorneys' Association;

20 (7) a representative of the Office of the Secretary of State; and

21 (8) a representative of a security training academy that provides training
22 for special police officers.

23 (e) On or before December 1, 2026, the Department shall submit a report of its
24 findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the
25 State Government Article, the General Assembly.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
27 1, 2026.