

# SENATE BILL 491

P6

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CF HB 789

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By: **Senator Salling**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2026

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 3, 2026

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System – Military Service Credit Eligibility**  
3 **– Helicopter Pilots**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain members of the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension  
5 System assigned as helicopter pilots in a State law enforcement aviation unit to  
6 receive credit for certain military service if the member receives military service  
7 credit in another retirement system; prohibiting an individual from receiving credit  
8 more than a certain number of times; and generally relating to members of the Law  
9 Enforcement Officers' Pension System receiving military service credit.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article – State Personnel and Pensions  
12 Section 38–104  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – State Personnel and Pensions**

18 38–104.

19 (a) (1) This section applies to an individual who is:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (i) a member of a State system; or

2 (ii) a former member of a State system who is eligible to receive a  
3 benefit under § 29–302 or § 29–303 of this article.

4 (2) This section does not apply to a retiree of a State system.

5 (b) Except as provided in [subsection (c)] **SUBSECTIONS (C) AND (E)** of this  
6 section, an individual described in subsection (a) of this section, who has not met the  
7 conditions set forth in § 38–103(a)(2) through (4) of this subtitle, is entitled to receive  
8 service credit for military service only on the attainment of 10 years of service credit earned  
9 through employment as a member of a State system.

10 (c) (1) An individual described in subsection (a) of this section may not receive  
11 credit for that military service if the individual receives credit for military service from  
12 another retirement system for which retirement benefits have been or will be received by  
13 the individual.

14 (2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection does not apply to:

15 (i) credit for military service provided under:

16 1. the Social Security Act;

17 2. the National Railroad Retirement Act; or

18 3. Title 3 or Title 10, Chapter 1223, §§ 12731 through 12737  
19 of the United States Code; [or]

20 (ii) disability payments from a pension or retirement system; **OR**

21 **(III) A MEMBER OR FORMER MEMBER OF THE LAW**  
22 **ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION SYSTEM WHO IS OR WAS ASSIGNED AS A**  
23 **HELICOPTER PILOT IN A STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AVIATION UNIT.**

24 (3) (i) Military service credit under this section may not exceed 5 years.

25 (ii) Subject to subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, a member of the  
26 Maryland National Guard or of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United  
27 States who has not been activated under Title 10 of the United States Code, shall receive  
28 service credit at the rate of 4 months for each full year of service with the Maryland  
29 National Guard or with a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States, not  
30 to exceed a total of 36 months.

1 (iii) Subject to subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, an individual shall  
2 receive service credit at the rate of 4 months for each full year of attendance at a United  
3 States service academy, not to exceed a total of 16 months.

4 (d) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the service credit  
5 for military service that an individual receives under this section shall be applied to the  
6 individual's retirement allowance using the accrual rate in effect at the time the individual  
7 retires from a State system.

8 (2) If an individual applies for military service credit on or after July 1,  
9 2011, the service credit for military service that the individual receives under this section  
10 shall be applied to the individual's retirement allowance using the accrual rate in effect at  
11 the time the individual submits an application for military service credit to the State  
12 Retirement Agency.

13 (E) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT RECEIVE SERVICE CREDIT UNDER THIS  
14 SECTION MORE THAN ONCE.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
16 1, 2026.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.