

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Bill 397

(Anne Arundel County Senators)

Judicial Proceedings

Judiciary

Anne Arundel County - Sheriff - Appointment of Majors

This bill requires the Anne Arundel County Sheriff to appoint three majors at a salary to be determined by the Anne Arundel County Council.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not materially affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: Anne Arundel County expenditures increase by an estimated \$822,300 in FY 2027, and by at least \$730,000 annually thereafter. Revenues are not affected. **This bill may impose a mandate on a unit of local government.**

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Sheriff of Anne Arundel County is required to appoint deputies at a salary provided by the Anne Arundel County Council. Additionally, the sheriff is authorized to appoint a chief deputy who serves at the discretion of the sheriff.

Local Expenditures: According to information provided by Anne Arundel County, expenditures increase by approximately \$822,275 in fiscal 2027, which accounts for the bill's October 1, 2026 effective date. This estimate includes salaries for the newly appointed majors (estimated at approximately \$142,000 annually) and benefits, as well as one-time start-up costs and ongoing operating expenses related to uniforms, vehicles, and other equipment. Future year expenditures generally reflect full salaries with annual increases, as well as annual increases in ongoing operating expenses. Although the bill's

requirement could be met while maintaining the existing number of staff at the sheriff's office, this estimate reflects the county's assumption that the new positions created under the bill result in an overall expansion of staff within the sheriff's office.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: HB 11 (Delegate Simmons) - Judiciary.

Information Source(s): Anne Arundel County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 9, 2026
sj/jkb Third Reader - March 20, 2026

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