

**G Adkins Testimony SB439\_001.pdf**

Uploaded by: Eugene (Gene) Adkins

Position: FAV

**SOMERSET COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING OFFICE**

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CRAIG N. MATHIES, SR., PRESIDENT  
CHARLES LAIRD, VICE-PRESIDENT  
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**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK,**  
RALPH D. TAYLOR  
**COUNTY ATTORNEY, KIRK G. SIMPKINS**



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**Finance & Accounting Staff-Traci Martin,**  
**Accountant-Kira Evans**

February 15, 2022  
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
11 Bladen St. Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Mr. Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you very much Mr. Chairman and committee members. For the record, my name is Gene Adkins, and am the Finance Director for Somerset County. I am representing the County Commissioners here today, who are strongly in favor of passing SB 439 to change the salaries of many elected officials in our County. This bill is necessary because these salaries are only changeable by law since we are a County Commissioner form of government. The purpose of this bill, as Senator Carozza has stated, is to bring the mentioned salaries more in line with that of our peers and with other Counties.

Most of the salaries mentioned in the bill were last changed 4 years ago, but the County Roads Commissioners and the Orphans Court Judges were last changed in 2008. Somerset County salaries historically run behind those of other Counties. That is once again evident when you look at the States Attorney schedule, which was \$16,000 less than the other shore counties, prior to this bill. The Somerset County Commissioners request a favorable report and final passage of SB 439.

I am also here today to answer any questions on the calculations for the additional projected expenses to Somerset County, resulting from this bill.

**SB439 Officials Salaries.pdf**

Uploaded by: Eugene (Gene) Adkins

Position: FAV

**COMMISSIONERS FOR SOMERSET COUNTY**

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**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR-CLERK**  
RALPH D. TAYLOR

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**  
KIRK G. SIMPKINS

January 24, 2022

The Honorable Senator William C. Smith, Jr., Chair  
Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East  
Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SB0439/HB0382-Somerset County -Local Officials- Salaries and Daily Allowance for  
Traveling Expenses/Letter of Support

Dear Senator Smith and Committee Members:

The Board of County Commissioners for Somerset County strongly support SB0439/HB0382 increasing the salaries for the County Commissioners, the County Roads Board, Orphans Court Chief and Associate Judges, Somerset County Sheriff and the Somerset County States Attorney, bringing them more in line with that of their peers.

Therefore, we as Somerset County Commissioners request for a favorable report and final passage of SB0439/HB0382. Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

Ralph D. Taylor  
County Administrator

# **SB 439 Senator Carozza Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Senator Mary Beth Carozza

Position: FAV

MARY BETH CAROZZA  
Legislative District 38  
Somerset, Wicomico,  
and Worcester Counties

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs  
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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**February 15, 2022**

**The Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee**

**SB 439 Somerset County - Local Officials - Salaries and Daily Allowance for Traveling Expenses  
Statement of Support by Bill Sponsor Senator Mary Beth Carozza**

Thank you, Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the distinguished Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee for allowing me to present Senate Bill 439 Somerset County - Local Officials - Salaries and Daily Allowance for Traveling Expenses. This legislation would increase and provide updated salaries for specified elected officials in Somerset County to stay competitive with its surrounding counties including Dorchester, Worcester, Wicomico, Caroline, and Kent, and makes a minor modification to increase the daily allowance for the traveling expenses of the Chief Judge and associate judges of Somerset County's Orphans' Court.

You will hear from Gene Adkins, Finance Director for Somerset County, who will share further information on why this legislation is needed and also will be able to answer specific questions regarding the salaries and traveling expenses.

Mr. Chair and Vice Chair, I respectfully urge the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee Members for a favorable report on Senate Bill 439, a local Somerset County bill. Thank you for your kind attention and consideration of this local priority bill.