

KAREN SIMPSON
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Frederick County

Judiciary Committee
Chair
Family Law Subcommittee



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB312 - Correctional Officers' Retirement System - Redeposit of Accumulated Contributions - Alterations

Hearing on 3/18/2026 at 1:00pm

To: Chair Barnes, Vice Chair Kaiser, and Members of the Appropriations Committee,

HB 312 – Correctional Officers’ Retirement System – Redeposit of Accumulated Contributions – Alterations provides members of the Correctional Officers’ Retirement System the ability to redeposit into their CORS account previously withdrawn accumulated contributions plus interest to the date of the redeposit to restore previously earned service credit from the Employees’ Pension System into their Correctional Officers account.

As intended by the Maryland General Assembly in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2022, multiple positions in the Employees and Teachers retirement and pension system were legislatively transferred into CORS to reward them with a higher benefit, earlier retirement date, and discounted contributions rate.

HB312/SB239 was drafted because the Retirement Agency referred my constituent, Ms. Katherine Parron to her representatives for a legislative fix because the law does *not* currently permit her to purchase or redeposit her prior 7.5 years of service credit she earned as a parole and probation agent.

HB312/SB239 amends State Pensions § 25-304 because Ms. Parron would have been eligible to redeposit the withdrawn contributions plus interest if she had not been legislatively transferred to CORS.

When HB312/SB239 passes, Ms. Parron and others in a similar situation will greatly appreciate your role in their ability to redeposit the funds that they would have been able to redeposit had they not been legislatively transferred.

Please note that the Agency has the funds the State paid for Ms. Parron. They were not returned when the Agency refunded her contributions.

The intention of HB312/SB239 as drafted is in the spirit of the CORS transfers. HB312/SB239 restores Ms. Parron's eligibility to redeposit withdrawn contributions plus interest as if she had not been legislatively transferred to CORS.

We want her and the few others in a similar situation to be able to do the same because it is what they could have done if they were not transferred. It restores the benefits of the transfer.

The State needs Correctional Officers. EPS/TRS members were transferred because it is a better benefit.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge a favorable report on HB 312.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Karen Simpson".

Delegate Karen Simpson – District 3 – Frederick