

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2016 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1556
Appropriations

(Delegate Folden)

Frederick County Sheriff - Collective Bargaining

This bill prohibits the Frederick County Executive from being a party to collective bargaining agreements pertaining to deputy sheriffs and correctional officers; however, the county executive may attend and participate in all collective bargaining sessions involving deputy sheriffs and correctional officers.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. The bill does not materially affect Frederick County operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Eight counties in Maryland have collective bargaining for deputy sheriffs including Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Charles, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties. In Allegany, Anne Arundel, and Prince George's counties, binding arbitration is provided. The scope of collective bargaining is limited in a few counties: Charles County does not authorize bargaining on salaries and other issues controlled by the county commissioners; Frederick County authorizes bargaining for wages and benefits only.

Background: The Frederick County Sheriff's Office currently employs 171 sworn law enforcement officers at or below the rank of sergeant and 110 correctional officers at or below the rank of sergeant. The fiscal 2016 budget for the Frederick County Sheriff's Office totals \$43.6 million. According to Frederick County, the Fraternal Order of Police is the exclusive recognized representative of deputies and correctional officers within the sheriff's office and the organization only negotiates with the county sheriff regarding employee contracts. Funding for contracts must be approved by the county government.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 1128 (Senators Young and Hough) - Finance.

Information Source(s): Frederick County and Department of Legislative Services

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min/hlb

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