

Chapter 72

(House Bill 163)

AN ACT concerning

Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System – Crisfield Police Department

FOR the purpose of requiring membership in the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System for certain local law enforcement officers of the Crisfield Police Department under certain circumstances; providing that a certain individual is entitled to eligibility service and creditable service that was earned before the effective date of the Crisfield Police Department's participation in the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System; providing that an individual who receives certain service credit is not a member of and has no rights to a benefit in the Employees' Pension System; providing for the transfer of creditable service for a certain individual; providing for the transfer and crediting of certain assets on the effective date of participation; and generally relating to the Crisfield Police Department's participation in the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 Article – State Personnel and Pensions
 Section 31–2A–05(c)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

BY adding to
 Article – State Personnel and Pensions
 Section 31–2A–06
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

Article – State Personnel and Pensions

31–2A–05.

(c) (1) On the effective date:

(i) the assets to the credit of the local plan or State system that relate to the law enforcement officers, firefighters, or paramedics who elect to become members shall be transferred to the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System; and

(ii) the trustee or other administrative head of the local plan or State system shall certify the proportion of the funds of the local plan or State system that

represents the accumulated contributions of the members as of that date.

(2) The accumulated contributions shall be credited to the respective annuity savings accounts of the members in the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System.

(3) The balance of the funds transferred to the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System shall be offset against the special accrued liability to be funded by the participating governmental unit as provided by § 21-306.1(d) of this article.

31-2A-06.

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE CRISFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT:

(1) IN A PERMANENT FULL-TIME POSITION BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AND WHO REMAINS A LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE CRISFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT IN A PERMANENT FULL-TIME POSITION THROUGH THE EFFECTIVE DATE; OR

(2) IN A PERMANENT FULL-TIME POSITION AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE.

(B) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, IF THE CRISFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT BECOMES A PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTAL UNIT IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION SYSTEM, MEMBERSHIP IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION SYSTEM IS MANDATORY FOR AN INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.

(C) IF THE CRISFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMENCES PARTICIPATION IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION SYSTEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(1) OF THIS SECTION IS ENTITLED TO ELIGIBILITY SERVICE AND CREDITABLE SERVICE IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION SYSTEM FOR EMPLOYMENT WITH THE CRISFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE DATE.

(D) ON JOINING THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION SYSTEM AND RECEIVING SERVICE CREDIT AS PROVIDED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(1) OF THIS SECTION SHALL:

(1) NO LONGER BE A MEMBER OF THE EMPLOYEES' PENSION

SYSTEM; AND

(2) HAVE NO FURTHER RIGHTS TO ANY BENEFIT IN THE EMPLOYEES' PENSION SYSTEM.

(E) THE TRANSFER OF CREDITABLE SERVICE FOR AN INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A)(1) OF THIS SECTION WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE EMPLOYEES' PENSION SYSTEM THROUGH THE EFFECTIVE DATE, AND WHO TRANSFERS TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION SYSTEM UNDER THIS SECTION, IS NOT GOVERNED BY TITLE 37 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(F) IF THE CRISFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT BECOMES A PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTAL UNIT IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' PENSION SYSTEM, § 31-2A-05(C) OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL GOVERN THE TRANSFER AND CREDITING OF ASSETS ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2023.

Approved by the Governor, April 11, 2023.