

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2023 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Bill 645

(Senator McCray)

Judicial Proceedings

Environment and Transportation

Baltimore City - Sheriff's Office - Salaries and Collective Bargaining

This bill authorizes the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City (instead of the Secretary of Budget and Management) to set the salaries for deputy sheriffs and other specified employees of the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office. The bill also alters statutory provisions relating to collective bargaining for specified officers in the Baltimore City Sheriff's Office.

Fiscal Summary

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

Local Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially affect the finances or operations of Baltimore City.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary/Current Law: Under current law, the Baltimore City Sheriff must appoint specified employees, including an undersheriff or chief deputy sheriff, one assistant sheriff, three deputy sheriff majors, three deputy sheriff captains, six deputy sheriff lieutenants, one secretary sheriff, and one fiscal clerk sheriff. The sheriff may appoint up to a maximum of (1) nine deputy sheriff sergeants; (2) 103 deputy sheriffs; (3) two domestic violence clerks; and (4) two domestic violence advocates. Generally, the salaries for these employees are set by the Secretary of Budget and Management (subject to specified statutory minimums tied to the State pay scale for deputy sheriffs, deputy sheriff sergeants, and deputy sheriff lieutenants). The bill retains the specified statutory minimums but

establishes that the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City must set the salaries. Under current law (and unchanged by the bill), Baltimore City is responsible for paying the salaries.

Under current law, full-time sworn law enforcement officers and court security officers may seek recognition by the Sheriff (or designee) to bargain collectively in good faith concerning (1) compensation, *excluding* salary, wages, and those benefits determined, offered, administered, controlled, or managed by the Mayor and the City Council; (2) leave, holidays, and vacations; and (3) hours, working conditions, and job security. The bill alters these provisions to instead authorize collective bargaining concerning salary, wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment that are determined, offered, administered, controlled, or managed by the Sheriff.

Under current law, sworn law enforcement officers and court security officers may seek recognition in order to bargain collectively in good faith with the Mayor and the City Council concerning merit step increases and those benefits that are determined, offered, administered, controlled, or managed by the Mayor and the City Council. The bill repeals the specific reference to merit step increases and instead authorizes collective bargaining concerning salary, wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment that are determined, offered, administered, controlled, or managed by the Mayor and the City Council.

Additional Information

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

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City; Department of Budget and Management; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 22, 2023
km/jkb Third Reader - March 20, 2023

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