

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
First Reader

Senate Bill 636  
Finance

(Cecil County Senators)

---

**Cecil County - Office of the Sheriff - Employees and Collective Bargaining**

---

This bill makes numerous alterations to statutory provisions regarding the Office of the Sheriff of Cecil County, including provisions regarding collective bargaining rights and probationary periods of employment. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018.**

---

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The bill does not materially impact Cecil County operations or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

---

**Analysis**

**Bill Summary:** The bill alters, from 12 months to 18 months, the period of time during which employees of the Office of the Sheriff of Cecil County, other than the chief deputy sheriff, are required to serve a probationary period. It also excludes the chief deputy sheriff, community corrections director, detention center director and deputy director, and law enforcement director from provisions regarding the right to participate in specified activities relating to collective bargaining. The bill further alters provisions regarding collective bargaining rights by establishing that deputy sheriffs at the rank of captain and below are authorized to engage in collective bargaining activities.

The bill changes numerous references to the sheriff's *department* to the sheriff's *office*. It also alters numerous provisions to update titles and terminology and accurately reflect the

government of Cecil County, such as altering references from the county commissioners to the county council or the county executive, as appropriate.

**Current Law/Background:** Statutory provisions set forth requirements for the Office of the Sheriff of Cecil County. Except for the chief deputy sheriff, each employee of the sheriff's department must serve a probationary period of 12 months. Full-time, sworn law enforcement deputy sheriffs in the Office of the Sheriff of Cecil County at the rank of sergeant and below may take part in specified activities regarding collective bargaining. Statutory provisions set forth a process for collective bargaining.

Since 2012, Cecil County has been a charter county, governed by a county council and a county executive.

---

### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 284 (Cecil County Delegation) - Appropriations.

**Information Source(s):** Cecil County; Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 16, 2018  
md/kdm

---

Analysis by: Jennifer K. Botts

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510