

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2015 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1188

(Chair, Judiciary Committee)(By Request - Departmental  
- General Services)

Judiciary

---

Maryland Capitol Police of the Department of General Services

---

This departmental bill clarifies and makes uniform all references to the police and security force of the Department of General Services (DGS) as the Maryland Capital Police (MCP) of DGS in various Articles of the Maryland Annotated Code. The bill also (1) adds MCP under the definition of “law enforcement officer” in the Health-General Article; (2) eliminates a prohibition against the involuntary transfer of a member of the police and security force from one site to another; and (3) expands the jurisdiction of MCP at specified multiservice centers to 1,000 feet in any direction from the multiservice centers.

---

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. The bill provides some operational efficiencies for DGS. Any additional arrests and/or incarcerations resulting from the bill’s expanded jurisdiction of MCP is not expected to materially affect State operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** DGS has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

---

Analysis

**Current Law:** The DGS police and/or security force is referenced differently in various Articles of the code, including the Criminal Procedure Article the Public Safety Article, the State Finance and Procurement Article, the State Personnel and Pensions Article, and the Transportation Article. Members of the DGS police and/or security force are included

under the definition of a “police officer” in the Criminal Procedure Article and the Public Safety Article. DGS police are not currently included under the definition of a “law enforcement officer” in the Health-General Article.

Under provisions of the State Finance and Procurement Article, DGS has jurisdiction over and full police authority for the enforcement of the criminal laws and the parking and motor vehicle laws as to the operation, maintenance, and protection of:

- buildings and grounds that, on June 30, 1984, were administered by the Office of Annapolis Public Buildings and Grounds and extending to the surrounding area that encompasses 1,000 feet in any direction from the boundary of those buildings and grounds;
- buildings and grounds that, on June 30, 1984, were administered by the Office of Baltimore Public Buildings and Grounds and extending to the surrounding area that encompasses 1,000 feet in any direction from the boundary of those buildings and grounds;
- multiservice centers designated by law or by the Board of Public Works (BPW); and
- other public improvements or grounds designated by law or by BPW.

Also under provisions of the State Finance and Procurement Article, a member of the police and security force of DGS may not be involuntarily transferred from a site to another site.

**Background:** MCP, which is one of the oldest capitol police agencies in the nation, is a full-service police department that provides law enforcement and security services for more than 40 State buildings, 10 parking garages, and 16 surface parking lots throughout the Annapolis and Baltimore areas.

According to DGS, the bill clarifies and makes consistent references to its police force and authority throughout Maryland’s statutory provisions. The bill also removes a restriction on the involuntary transfer of police and security force personnel from one site to another, which should allow for more efficient management of manpower. The bill’s expansion of the jurisdiction of DGS provides for a more consistent police authority for enforcement of criminal laws and parking and motor vehicle laws in the operation, maintenance, and protection of multiservice centers.

---

### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of General Services, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 12, 2015  
md/lgc

---

Analysis by: Guy G. Cherry

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

## ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: Maryland Capitol Police of the Department of General Services - Identification

BILL NUMBER: HB 1188

PREPARED BY: Ellen Robertson, Legislative Liaison

### PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS

OR

WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESSES

### PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

None. The bill simply addresses areas of the Annotated Code that identifies the Maryland Capitol Police of the Department of General Services and removes a restriction that prevents the involuntary transfer of a police and security force member from one site to another the bill and expands the jurisdiction of the Maryland Capitol Police of the Department of General Services to 1,000 feet in any direction from the boundary of multiservice centers and any state owned, leased or managed building and its grounds.