

PROPOSED

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2026, Legislative Day No. 13

Bill No. 56-26

Introduced by Ms. Hummer, Chair
(by request of the County Executive)

By the County Council, June 15, 2026

Introduced and first read on June 15, 2026
Public Hearing set for July 20, 2026
Bill Expires September 18, 2026

By Order: Kaley Schultze, Administrative Officer

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning: Pensions – Reemployment – DROP Accounts – Fire
2 Service Retirement Plan – Detention Officers’ and Deputy Sheriffs’ Retirement Plan

3
4 FOR the purpose of modifying the reemployment restriction for certain participants in the
5 Fire Service Retirement Plan; modifying the DROP participation period for certain
6 participants in the Detention Officers’ and Deputy Sheriffs’ Retirement Plan;
7 modifying the annual interest rate for DROP accounts for certain participants in Fire
8 Service Retirement Plan; modifying the amount of employee contributions for certain
9 participants in Fire Service Retirement Plan; modifying classifications of Category I
10 participants in Detention Officers’ and Deputy Sheriffs’ Retirement Plan; and generally
11 relating to pensions.

12
13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments: §§ 5-1-203(c)(1), 5-1-506(b)(7), 5-1-
14 508(c)(2), 5-1-515, 5-4-103(b), and 5-6-102(b)
15 Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended)

16
17 SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland,*
18 That Section(s) of the Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended) read as follows:

ARTICLE 5. PENSIONS

TITLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

5-1-203. Reemployment.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate new matter added to existing law and taglines.
[[Brackets]] indicate matter deleted from existing law and taglines.
Captions and taglines in **bold** in this bill are catchwords and are not law.
Asterisks *** indicate existing Code provisions in a list or chart that remain unchanged.

1 **(c) When benefits not reduced.**

2
3 (1) [[Except as provided in § 5-1-515, a]] A participant's retirement benefit may not
4 be reduced if:

5
6 (i) the employee is retired from the County as a classified employee and is
7 reemployed by the County as:

8
9 1. an exempt employee under § 802(a)(14) of the Charter, but only for the
10 first 1,500 hours worked in a calendar year;

11
12 2. an exempt employee under § 802(a)(17) of the Charter;

13
14 3. an employee of the Sheriff in a position that requires the employee to be
15 certified as a Police Officer by the Police Training Commission if the employee was
16 certified as a Police Officer by the Police Training Commission at the time the employee
17 retired; or

18
19 4. an employee of the State's Attorney in a position that requires the
20 employee to be certified as a Police Officer by the Police Training Commission if the
21 employee was certified as a Police Officer by the Police Training Commission at the time
22 the employee retired; or

23
24 (ii) the employee retired from the County as an exempt employee under §§ 6-
25 2-101, 6-2-104, or 6-2-105 of this Code in a position that is not exempt from the provisions
26 of the Fair Labor Standards Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 207 et seq. and is reemployed by the County
27 as an exempt employee under § 802(a)(14) of the Charter; or

28
29 (iii) the employee is retired from the County as a classified employee and:

30
31 1. it is at least 90 days between the date of retirement and the date of
32 reemployment if reemployed as a classified employee; and

33
34 2. the retiree is reemployed in a different job classification than that which
35 the retiree held at the time of retirement; and

36
37 3. if the retiree was a uniformed officer as defined in § 6-1-101(22), the
38 retiree is reemployed as a non-uniformed officer or in a different department from which
39 the retiree retired.

40
41 **5-1-506. Participation period; mandatory retirement upon expiration.**

42
43 **(b) Term of participation; extension.**

44
45 (7) (i) Effective July 1, 2024, for a participant who is a member of the Detention
46 Officers' and Deputy Sheriffs' Retirement Plan in the classification of Detention Officer,
47 Detention Corporal, Detention Sergeant, Detention Lieutenant, or Detention Captain, or in
48 the classification of Assistant Correctional Facility Administrator or Correctional Facility

1 Administrator hired before October 29, 2020, the DROP participation period may be
2 extended for an additional one-year term, for a total of seven years.

3
4 (ii) Effective July 1, 2025, for a participant who is a member of the Detention
5 Officers' and Deputy Sheriffs' Retirement Plan in the classification of Correctional
6 Program Specialist I or II or Criminal Justice Program Supervisor hired before October 29,
7 2020, the DROP participation period may be extended for an additional one-year term, for
8 a total of seven years.

9
10 (III) EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026, FOR A PARTICIPANT WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE
11 DETENTION OFFICERS' AND DEPUTY SHERIFFS' RETIREMENT PLAN IN THE
12 CLASSIFICATION OF DEPUTY SHERIFF, DEPUTY SHERIFF FIRST CLASS, DEPUTY SHERIFF
13 CORPORAL, DEPUTY SHERIFF SERGEANT, DEPUTY SHERIFF LIEUTENANT, OR DEPUTY
14 SHERIFF CAPTAIN, THE DROP PARTICIPATION PERIOD MAY BE EXTENDED FOR AN
15 ADDITIONAL ONE-YEAR TERM, FOR A TOTAL OF SEVEN YEARS.

16
17 **5-1-508. DROP account.**

18
19 (c) **Account balance.** The account balance credited to a DROP participant includes:

20
21 (2) interest compounded on the account balance as of the first day of each month,
22 at the following rates:

23
24 ***

25
26 (v) for members of the Fire Service Plan in the classification of Fire Fighter,
27 Fire Fighter/EMT-Paramedic, Fire Lieutenant, Fire Lieutenant/EMT-Paramedic, Fire
28 Captain or Fire Captain/EMT-Paramedic whose DROP participation began on or after July
29 1, 2025, .40741%, which provides an effective annual yield of 5.00%; **[[and]]**

30
31 (vi) for members of the Fire Service Plan in the classification of Fire Battalion
32 Chief, Fire Division Chief, Fire Deputy Chief, Fire Assistant Chief, or Fire Chief, whose
33 DROP participation began on or after July 1, 2025, BUT BEFORE JUNE 1, 2027, .38747%,
34 which provides an effective annual yield of 4.75%**[[.]]**; AND

35
36 (VII) FOR MEMBERS OF THE FIRE SERVICE PLAN IN THE CLASSIFICATION OF
37 FIRE BATTALION CHIEF, FIRE DIVISION CHIEF, FIRE DEPUTY CHIEF, FIRE ASSISTANT CHIEF,
38 OR FIRE CHIEF, WHOSE DROP PARTICIPATION BEGAN ON OR AFTER JUNE 1, 2027, .40741%,
39 WHICH PROVIDES AN EFFECTIVE ANNUAL YIELD OF 5.00%.

40
41 **5-1-515. Reemployment of participant.**

42
43 (a) **[[Reduction in benefit.** A former DROP participant in the Fire Service Retirement
44 Plan who retired from a position classification covered by a collective bargaining
45 agreement, who is receiving a retirement benefit under § 5-1-512, and who is reemployed
46 in any capacity by the County shall have a reduction in their retirement benefit under § 5-
47 1-512(a) during the period of reemployment by \$1.00 for each \$2.00 received in salary or
48 wages from the County.

1 (b) **Adjustments.** The reduced benefit described in subsection (a) shall be adjusted by
2 any changes under Title 7 applicable to benefits under the plan during the period of
3 reemployment.

4
5 (c)]] **Termination of reemployment for any reason other than death.** If A FORMER
6 DROP PARTICIPANT IS REEMPLOYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 5-1-203 AND the
7 reemployment of the former DROP participant is terminated for any reason other than the
8 death of the former participant, including voluntary termination or disability, [[the
9 reduction in benefits described in subsection (a) shall cease, provided]] ANY service and
10 salary during the period of reemployment may not be used to change the amount of the
11 benefit and the participant's benefit under § 5-1-512(a) shall be adjusted by any changes
12 under Title 7 that would have been applicable to the benefit during the period of
13 reemployment.

14
15 [[(d)]] (B) **Reemployment terminated because of death.** If A FORMER DROP
16 PARTICIPANT IS REEMPLOYED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 5-1-203 AND the reemployment of
17 the former DROP participant is terminated because of the death of the former participant,
18 the death shall be considered to have occurred after the date of retirement of the former
19 DROP participant and death benefits shall be paid under § 5-4-207, § 5-5-206, § 5-6-208,
20 or § 5-6-209, as appropriate, provided service and salary during the period of
21 reemployment may not be used to change the amount of the death benefits and the death
22 benefits shall be adjusted by any changes under Title 7 that would have been applicable to
23 the retirement benefit of the former participant during the period of reemployment.

24
25 [[(e)]] (C) **DROP benefit payment not affected.** The reemployment may not affect the
26 payment of the DROP benefit under § 5-1-512(b).

27
28 **TITLE 4. FIRE SERVICE RETIREMENT PLAN**

29
30 **5-4-103. Pension fund established; contributions.**

31
32 (b) **Employee contributions.**

33
34 (1) [[Except as provided in paragraph (2), each participant shall contribute to the
35 pension fund, through payroll deductions, 7.25% of the participant's annual basic pay in
36 each calendar year or portion of a calendar year while an active participant in the plan.

37
38 (2) Effective January 1, 2026, a]] EACH participant in the classification of Fire
39 Fighter, Fire Fighter/EMT-Paramedic, Fire Lieutenant, Fire Lieutenant/EMT-Paramedic,
40 Fire Captain or Fire Captain/EMT-Paramedic shall contribute to the pension fund, through
41 payroll deductions, 8.00% of the participant's annual basic pay in each calendar year or
42 portion of a calendar year while an active participant in the plan.

43
44 (2) EACH PARTICIPANT IN THE CLASSIFICATION OF FIRE BATTALION CHIEF, FIRE
45 BATTALION CHIEF/EMT-PARAMEDIC, FIRE DIVISION CHIEF, FIRE DEPUTY CHIEF, FIRE
46 ASSISTANT CHIEF OR FIRE CHIEF SHALL CONTRIBUTE TO THE PENSION FUND, THROUGH
47 PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS, 7.25% OF THE PARTICIPANT'S ANNUAL BASIC PAY IN EACH
48 CALENDAR YEAR OR PORTION OF A CALENDAR YEAR WHILE AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN
49 THE PLAN.

1 (3) EFFECTIVE THE FIRST FULL PAY PERIOD ON OR AFTER JUNE 1, 2027, EACH
2 PARTICIPANT SHALL CONTRIBUTE TO THE PENSION FUND, THROUGH PAYROLL
3 DEDUCTIONS, 8.00% OF THE PARTICIPANT'S ANNUAL BASIC PAY IN EACH CALENDAR YEAR
4 OR PORTION OF A CALENDAR YEAR WHILE AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN THE PLAN.
5

6 **TITLE 6. DETENTION OFFICERS' AND DEPUTY SHERIFFS'**
7 **RETIREMENT PLAN**
8

9 **5-6-102. Participants.**

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11 (b) **Category I participants.** The following participants are category I participants:
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13 ***
14

15 (6) Deputy Sheriff **[[Corporal]]**;

16
17 (7) Deputy Sheriff **[[I]]** FIRST CLASS;

18
19 (8) DEPUTY SHERIFF CORPORAL;

20
21 **[[8]]** (9) Deputy Sheriff **[[II]]** SERGEANT;

22
23 **[[9]]** (10) Deputy Sheriff **[[III]]** LIEUTENANT; and

24
25 **[[10]]** (11) Deputy Sheriff **[[IV]]** CAPTAIN.
26

27 SECTION 2. *And be it further enacted,* That this Ordinance shall take effect 45 days
28 from the date it becomes law.