

2. May appoint a total of 83 deputy sheriffs.

(iii) Except for deputy sheriffs, salaries for these employees shall be set by the Secretary of Budget and Management. Salaries for deputy sheriffs shall be set at a rate not less than the salary equivalent to grade 12 of the State pay scale.

(iv) In addition to any other compensation received, each deputy sheriff shall receive an expense allowance of \$200 annually for:

1. Ammunition for practice sessions at the range;
2. Clothing allowance to defray the cost of dry cleaning and maintaining the clothing worn while on duty; and
3. The purchase and maintenance of other items necessary to fulfill duties that currently are not furnished by the Baltimore City Sheriff's department.

(v) A deputy sheriff who uses a personal automobile is entitled to a monthly automobile allowance at the same rate paid to other State employees. Any Sheriff who is assigned a city-owned automobile may not receive the monthly automobile expense allowance.

(vi) The Sheriff's office shall also have assistants at the compensation provided for in the annual ordinance of estimates of Baltimore City. Provisions shall also be made in the ordinance for the expenses of the office of the Sheriff, including the purchase and maintenance of motor vehicles.

(vii) The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore have the same power with respect to the salaries of the office of the Sheriff as they have under the city charter with respect to the salaries of all municipal departments.

(viii) Employees of the Sheriff's office, except the Sheriff, shall be selected according to the provisions of the State Personnel and Pensions Article.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2003.

Approved April 8, 2003.

CHAPTER 41

(House Bill 498)

AN ACT concerning

Health Insurance - Medicare Supplement Contracts - Availability

FOR the purpose of requiring certain carriers under certain circumstances to make available certain Medicare supplement policies; and generally relating to the availability of certain Medicare supplement policies.