service for a certain period of time; requiring the Board of Trustees for the State Retirement—and—Pension—System—to—make—certain—payments—to—certain individuals within a certain period of time; providing that certain payments made by the Board of Trustees for the State Retirement and Pension System to certain individuals may be made in a certain manner; defining a certain term; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the eligibility of members of the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System to participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Program.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

- (a) In this section, "DROP" means the Deferred Retirement Option Program established under § 26-401.1 of the State Personnel and Pensions Article.
- (b) This section applies only to a member of the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System who:
- $\,$ (1) $\,$ is a member of the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System on July 1, 2005;
- $\,$ (2) $\,$ was a member of the Law Enforcement Officers' Pension System on or before July 1, 2000; and
- (3) had accrued more than 25 years of eligibility service as of July 1, 2000, preventing the member from participating in the DROP for 5 years.
- (e) A member who is described in subsection (b) of this section, may elect to participate in the DROP for a period not to exceed the lesser of:
 - (i) 5 years;
- (ii) the difference between the mandatory retirement age for the member and the member's age as of the date that the member completes an application under subsection (d) of this section to participate in the DROP; or
 - (iii) a term selected by the member.
 - $\frac{\text{(d)}}{\text{(c)}}$ (1) An eligible member who elects to participate in the DROP shall:
- (i) complete and submit a written election form to the Board of Trustees on or before December 31, 2005, on the form that the Board of Trustees provides, stating:
 - 1. the member's intention to participate in the DROP;
 - 2. the date when the member desires to retire;
- 3. the period that the member desires to participate in the DROP, as provided in subsection (e) of this section;