

the classification of law enforcement employees in the consolidation of the State Forest and Park Rangers and the Natural Resources Police confirming the status of certain employees as police officers and preserving those officers' law enforcement commissions; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to the status and commissions of certain police officers.

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

(a) ~~In the implementation of the consolidation of the Natural Resources Police and the State Forest and Park Rangers, the Department of Natural Resources shall use the Natural Resources Police classification and salary grades to classify the law enforcement officers of the State Forest and Park Service.~~

(b) (1) ~~The law enforcement employees of the State Forest and Park Service shall be placed in the Natural Resources Police classification and salary grade which most closely corresponds to the employee's current pay grade.~~

(2) ~~The placement of a law enforcement employee of the State Forest and Park Service in the Natural Resources Police classification may not result in a loss of pay grade.~~

(c) ~~The Superintendent of the State Forest and Park Service may use titles and ranks for State Forest and Park Service Rangers that are different than the Natural Resources Police classifications.~~

(d) ~~The Superintendent of the Natural Resources Police and the Superintendent of the State Forest and Park Service shall approve the transfer of an employee from the State Forest and Park Service to the Natural Resources Police.~~

(e) (1) ~~The Natural Resources Police classification and salary grade shall be used for promotions of law enforcement employees within the State Forest and Park Service.~~

(2) ~~Law enforcement employees of the State Forest and Park Service shall be considered eligible for any promotional opportunities in the Natural Resources Police.~~

(a) This section applies to the implementation of the consolidation of the Natural Resources Police and the Forest and Park Service Rangers in the ~~Forest and Park Service or any successor organization~~ *Department of Natural Resources*.

(b) All employees commissioned as law enforcement officers of the Forest and Park Service pursuant to Title 5, Subtitle 2 of the Natural Resources Article shall retain their law enforcement officer commission and certification for the duration of their employment with the ~~Department of Natural Resources Forest and Park Service or any successor organization~~.

(c) (1) The classification title of the position of law enforcement officer of the Forest and Park Service at the rank of sergeant and above shall reflect the status of the position as a law enforcement officer.