

Preamble

~~WHEREAS, Public safety officers provide services that are essential to the health and safety of the people of Maryland;~~

~~WHEREAS, It is important that these essential services not be interrupted due to a dispute regarding the terms and conditions of employment of public safety officers;~~

~~WHEREAS, It is important that a mechanism be established for resolving disputes regarding the terms and conditions of employment of public safety officers; and~~

~~WHEREAS, It is important that any mechanism established for resolving disputes regarding the terms and conditions of employment of public safety officers provide equal and fair consideration to the interest of each party involved; now, therefore,~~

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Labor and Employment

SUBTITLE 5. EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS

4-501.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "EMPLOYEE" MEANS A FIRE, EMS, ~~AND~~ PARAMEDIC, OR RESCUE EMPLOYEE HIRED AND COMPENSATED BY THE EMPLOYER.

(C) "EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION" MEANS ANY ORGANIZATION OF EMPLOYEES THAT, AS ONE OF ITS PRIMARY PURPOSES, REPRESENTS FIRE, EMS, ~~AND~~ PARAMEDIC, OR RESCUE PERSONNEL.

(D) "EMPLOYER" MEANS ~~A GOVERNMENTAL UNIT THAT EMPLOYS AT LEAST THIRTY FIVE FULL TIME FIRE, EMS, AND RESCUE EMPLOYEES~~ A CHARTER COUNTY OR A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

(E) "EMS" MEANS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

(F) "EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE" MEANS AN EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION THAT HAS BEEN CERTIFIED THROUGH AN ELECTION OF ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES TO REPRESENT ~~THOSE EMPLOYEES~~ AND BARGAIN FOR THOSE EMPLOYEES OVER ANY TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT.

(G) (1) ~~"FIRE, EMS, AND RESCUE EMPLOYEE" MEANS A PAID FIRE FIGHTER, PAID FIRE OFFICER, OR PAID FIRE SERVICE PARAMEDIC WHO IS RECOGNIZED BY AN EMPLOYER AS A MEMBER OF A BARGAINING UNIT.~~

(2) ~~"FIRE, EMS, AND RESCUE EMPLOYEE" DOES NOT INCLUDE A VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER, VOLUNTEER FIRE OFFICER, OR VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYEE.~~

4-502.