

county. Personnel authorized under this subsection shall be selected by the Sheriff in accordance with the provisions of an ordinance adopted under Subsection [(C)(2)] K of this section. They shall have such duties as may be assigned to them by the Sheriff and shall be subject to the Sheriff's direction and supervision and removable by the Sheriff at any time. They shall receive such salary as established in a line item in the budget of the Sheriff as approved by the County Commissioners. These personnel shall not be sworn employees nor shall they be entitled to the benefit of the pension plan established under Article 25, § 3(G-1) of the Annotated Code of Maryland, unless specifically included under that subsection.

K. The Board of County Commissioners shall ENACT AN ORDINANCE WHICH SHALL provide a merit or classified service system to which all [of the members] FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES of the Sheriff's office, except the Sheriff AND THE SHERIFF'S APPOINTEES, shall be subject. [The merit or classified service system shall be established as a part of the ordinance required under Subsection (c)(2) of this section.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, pursuant to Article III, Section 35 of the Constitution of Maryland, this Act may not be construed to extend or apply to the salary or compensation of the Sheriff of Charles County in office on the effective date of this Act, but the provisions of this Act concerning the salary or compensation of the Sheriff of Charles County shall take effect at the beginning of the next following term of office.

SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2001.

Approved May 15, 2001.

CHAPTER 537

(House Bill 1187)

AN ACT concerning

Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

FOR the purpose of creating the Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing ~~as a principal office in the Executive Department to serve~~ promote the general welfare of deaf and hard of hearing individuals in the State; providing for the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Office; providing for the appointment, qualifications, powers, duties, and salary of the Director of the Office; providing for staffing of the Office; creating the Maryland Advisory Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; providing for the membership, appointment, qualifications, terms, powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Council; ~~and providing for the duties of the Office~~ requiring the Director to submit certain annual reports on or before certain dates in a certain manner; specifying the terms of the initial members of the Council; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.