

**H. B. 2071**

(By Delegates Caputo and Ferro)

[Introduced January 15, 2015; referred to the

Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources then Finance.]

**FISCAL  
NOTE**

A BILL to amend and reenact §20-7-1a and §20-7-1c of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, all relating to providing an increase in compensation for natural resources police officers.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That §20-7-1a and §20-7-1c of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted, all to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 7. LAW ENFORCEMENT, MOTORBOATING, LITTER.**

**§20-7-1a. Natural resources police officer salary increase based on length of service.**

(a) ~~Effective July 1, 2002, each natural resources police officer shall receive and be entitled to an increase in salary based on length of service, including that heretofore and hereafter served as a natural resources police officer as follows: For five years of service with the division, a natural resources police officer shall receive a salary increase of \$600 per year payable during his or her next three years of service and a like increase at three-year intervals thereafter, with these increases to be~~

1 ~~cumulative~~. Each natural resources police officer whose salary is fixed and specified pursuant to  
 2 section one-c of this article shall receive, and is entitled to, an increase in salary over that set forth  
 3 in section one-c of this article, for grade in rank, based on length of service, including that service  
 4 served before and after the effective date of this section as a natural resources police officer as  
 5 follows: At the end of two years of service as a natural resources police officer, the officer shall  
 6 receive a salary increase of \$400 to be effective during his or her next year of service and a like  
 7 increase at yearly intervals thereafter, with the increases to be cumulative. A salary increase shall  
 8 be based upon years of service as of July 1 of each year and may not be recalculated until July 1 of  
 9 the following year.

10 ~~Conservation~~ Natural resources police officers in service at the time the amendment to this  
 11 section becomes effective shall be given credit for prior service and shall be paid salaries as the same  
 12 length of service will entitle them to receive under the provisions hereof.

13 (b) This section does not apply to special or emergency natural resources police officers  
 14 appointed under the authority of section one of this article.

15 **§20-7-1c. Natural resources police officer, ranks, salary schedule, base pay, exceptions.**

16 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the contrary, the ranks within the law-  
 17 enforcement section of the Division of Natural Resources are colonel, lieutenant colonel, major,  
 18 captain, lieutenant, sergeant, corporal, natural resources police officer first class, senior natural  
 19 resources police officer, natural resources police officer and natural resources police officer-in-  
 20 training. Each officer while in uniform shall wear the insignia of rank as provided by the chief  
 21 natural resources police officer.

22 (b) Beginning on July 1, 2002, through June 30, 2011, natural resources police officers shall

1 be paid the minimum annual salaries based on the following schedule:

2 ANNUAL SALARY SCHEDULE (BASE PAY)

3 SUPERVISORY AND NONSUPERVISORY RANKS

4	Natural Resources Police Officer In Training (first year until end	
5	of probation).....	\$26,337
6	Natural Resources Police Officer (second year). . . . .	\$29,768
7	Natural Resources Police Officer (third year). . . . .	\$30,140
8	Senior Natural Resources Police Officer (fourth and	
9	fifth year). . . . .	\$30,440
10	Senior Natural Resources Police Officer First Class	
11	(after fifth year). . . . .	\$32,528
12	Senior Natural Resources Police Officer (after	
13	tenth year). . . . .	\$33,104
14	Senior Natural Resources Police Officer (after	
15	fifteenth year).....	\$33,528
16	Corporal (after sixteenth year).....	\$36,704
17	Sergeant. . . . .	\$40,880
18	First Sergeant. . . . .	\$42,968
19	Lieutenant.. . . .	\$47,144
20	Captain. . . . .	\$49,232
21	Major	\$51,320
22	Lieutenant Colonel. . . . .	\$53,408

1 Colonel.....

2 Beginning July 1, 2011, ~~and continuing thereafter~~ through June 30, 2015, natural resources  
3 police officers shall be paid the minimum annual salaries based on the following schedule:

4 ANNUAL SALARY SCHEDULE (BASE PAY)

5 SUPERVISORY AND NONSUPERVISORY RANKS

6 Natural Resources Police Officer In Training (first	
7 year until end of probation). . . . .	\$31,222
8 Natural Resources Police Officer (second year). . . . .	\$34,881
9 Natural Resources Police Officer (third year). . . . .	\$35,277
10 Senior Natural Resources Police Officer (fourth and	
11 fifth year). . . . .	\$35,601
12 Senior Natural Resources Police Officer First Class	
13 (after fifth year). . . . .	\$37,797
14 Senior Natural Resources Police Officer (after tenth	
15 year) \$38,397	
16 Senior Natural Resources Police Officer (after	
17 fifteenth year). . . . .	\$38,833
18 Corporal (after sixteenth year). . . . .	\$42,105
19 Sergeant. . . . .	\$46,401
20 First Sergeant. . . . .	\$48,549
21 Lieutenant. . . . .	\$52,857
22 Captain. . . . .	\$55,005

- 1 Major \$57,153
- 2 Lieutenant Colonel..... \$59,301
- 3 Colonel.....

4 Beginning July 1, 2011, ~~and continuing thereafter~~ through June 30, 2015, natural resources  
 5 police officers shall be paid the minimum annual salaries based on the following schedule:

6 ANNUAL SALARY SCHEDULE (BASE PAY)

7 SUPERVISORY AND NONSUPERVISORY RANKS

- 8 Natural Resources Police Officer In Training (first year until end of probation). . . . . \$31,222
- 9 Natural Resources Police Officer (second year). . . . . \$34,881
- 10 Natural Resources Police Officer (third year). . . . . \$35,277
- 11 Senior Natural Resources Police Officer (fourth and fifth year). . . . . \$35,601
- 12 Senior Natural Resources Police Officer First Class (after fifth year).. . . . . \$37,797
- 13 Senior Natural Resources Police Officer (after tenth
- 14 year) .....\$38,397
- 15 Senior Natural Resources Police Officer (after fifteenth year). . . . . \$38,833
- 16 Corporal (after sixteenth year).. . . . . \$42,105
- 17 Sergeant. . . . . \$46,401
- 18 First Sergeant. . . . . \$48,549
- 19 Lieutenant.. . . . \$52,857
- 20 Captain. . . . . \$55,005
- 21 Major ..... \$57,153
- 22 Lieutenant Colonel.. . . . \$59,301

1 Colonel.....

2 Beginning July 1, 2015, and continuing thereafter, natural resources police officers shall be  
3 paid the annual salaries based on the following schedule:

4 ANNUAL SALARY SCHEDULE (BASE PAY)

5 SUPERVISORY AND NONSUPERVISORY RANKS

6 Natural Resources Police Officer (In 1-6 months).....\$33,994

7 Natural Resources Police Officer (After Academy Through First  
8 Year).....\$41,258

9 Natural Resources Police Officer Second Year.....\$42,266

10 Natural Resources Police Officer Third Year .....\$42,649

11 Senior Natural Resources Police Officer (4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Year). .....\$43,048

12 Natural Resources Police Officer First Class (6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> Year).....\$43,654

13 Corporal (10+ years).....\$44,260

14 Sergeant .....\$48,561

15 First Sergeant.....\$50,712

16 Lieutenant .....\$52,862

17 Captain.....\$57,164

18 Major.....\$59,314

19 Lieutenant Colonel .....\$61,465

20 Colonel .....\$70,000

21 Each natural resources police officer whose salary is fixed and specified in this annual salary  
22 schedule is entitled to the length of service increases set forth in subsection one-a of this article.

1           Natural resources police officers in service at the time the amendment to this section becomes  
2 ~~effective~~ In applying the salary schedules set forth in this section where salary increases are provided  
3 for length of service, natural resources police officers in service at the time the schedules become  
4 effective shall be given credit for prior service and shall be paid salaries the same length of service  
5 entitles them to receive under the provisions of this section.

6           (c) This section does not apply to special or emergency natural resources police officers  
7 appointed under the authority of section one of this article.

8           (d) Nothing in this section prohibits other pay increases as provided under section two, article  
9 five, chapter five of this code: *Provided*, That any across-the-board pay increase granted by the  
10 Legislature or the Governor will be added to, and reflected in, the minimum salaries set forth in this  
11 section; and that any merit increases granted to an officer over and above the annual salary schedule  
12 listed in subsection (b) of this section are retained by an officer when he or she advances from one  
13 rank to another: *Provided, however*, That any natural resources police officer who receives an  
14 increase in compensation pursuant to the amendment and reenactment of this section in 2011 shall  
15 not receive any across-the-board pay increase granted by the Legislature or the Governor in 2011.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide an increase in compensation for natural resources police officers.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.