

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2017 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 2047

**FISCAL
NOTE**

BY DELEGATE CAPUTO

[Introduced February 8, 2017; Referred
to the Committee on Agriculture and Natural
Resources then Finance.]

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

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

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

ARTICLE 7. LAW ENFORCEMENT, MOTORBOATING, LITTER.

§20-7-1a. Conservation officers salary increase based on length of service.

1 (a) ~~Effective the first day of July, two thousand two, each conservation officer shall receive~~
2 ~~and be entitled to an increase in salary based on length of service, including that heretofore and~~
3 ~~hereafter served as a conservation officer as follows: For five years of service with the division,~~
4 ~~a conservation officer shall receive a salary increase of six hundred dollars per year payable~~
5 ~~during his or her next three years of service and a like increase at three-year intervals thereafter,~~
6 ~~with these increases to be cumulative~~ Each conservation officer whose salary is fixed and
7 specified pursuant to section one-c of this article shall receive, and is entitled to, an increase in
8 salary over that set forth in section one-c of this article, for grade in rank, based on length of
9 service including service before and after the effective date of this section as a conservation officer
10 as follows: At the end of two years of service as a conservation officer, the officer shall receive a
11 salary increase of \$400 to be effective during his or her next year of service and a like increase
12 at yearly intervals thereafter, with the increases to be cumulative.

13 A salary increase shall be based upon years of service as of July 1 of each year and may
14 not be recalculated until July 1 of the following year.

15 Conservation officers in service at the time the amendment to this section becomes
16 effective ~~shall be~~ are given credit for prior service and shall be paid such salaries as the same
17 length of service will entitle them to receive under the provisions hereof.

18 (b) This section does not apply to special or emergency conservation officers appointed

19 under the authority of section one of this article.

§20-7-1c. Conservation officers, ranks, salary schedule, base pay, exceptions.

1 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the contrary, the ranks within the law-
 2 enforcement section of the Division of Natural Resources are colonel, lieutenant colonel, major,
 3 captain, lieutenant, sergeant, corporal, conservation officer first class, senior conservation officer,
 4 conservation officer and conservation officer-in-training. Each officer while in uniform shall wear
 5 the insignia of rank as provided by the chief conservation officer.

6 (b) Beginning July 1, 2002, and continuing thereafter, conservation officers shall be paid
 7 the minimum annual salaries based on the following schedule:

ANNUAL SALARY SCHEDULE (BASE PAY)

SUPERVISORY AND NONSUPERVISORY RANKS

| | | |
|----|--|----------|
| 10 | Conservation Officer-In-Training | |
| 11 | (first year until end of probation) | \$26,337 |
| 12 | Conservation Officer (second year) | \$29,768 |
| 13 | Conservation Officer (third year)..... | \$30,140 |
| 14 | Senior Conservation Officer (fourth and fifth year)..... | \$30,440 |
| 15 | Senior Conservation Officer First Class (after fifth year) | \$32,528 |
| 16 | Senior Conservation Officer (after tenth year)..... | \$33,104 |
| 17 | Senior Conservation Officer (after fifteenth year)..... | \$33,528 |
| 18 | Corporal (after sixteenth year) | \$36,704 |
| 19 | Sergeant..... | \$40,880 |
| 20 | First Sergeant..... | \$42,968 |
| 21 | Lieutenant | \$47,144 |
| 22 | Captain..... | \$49,232 |
| 23 | Major | \$51,320 |
| 24 | Lieutenant Colonel | \$53,408 |
| 25 | Colonel | |

26 Beginning July 1, 2017, until and including June 30, 2018, conservation officers shall be
27 paid the annual salaries based on the following schedule:

28 **ANNUAL SALARY SCHEDULE (BASE PAY)**

29 **SUPERVISORY AND NONSUPERVISORY RANKS**

| | | |
|----|--|-----------------|
| 30 | <u>Conservation Officer(In training 1-6 months)</u> | <u>\$29,622</u> |
| 31 | <u>Conservation Officer (After Training Through First Year)</u> | <u>\$36,458</u> |
| 32 | <u>Conservation Officer Second Year</u> | <u>\$37,922</u> |
| 33 | <u>Conservation Officer Third Year</u> | <u>\$38,294</u> |
| 34 | <u>Senior Conservation Officer (4th - 6th Year)</u> | <u>\$38,682</u> |
| 35 | <u>Conservation Officer First Class (7th - 9th Year)</u> | <u>\$39,270</u> |
| 36 | <u>Corporal (10+ years)</u> | <u>\$39,858</u> |
| 37 | <u>Sergeant</u> | <u>\$44,034</u> |
| 38 | <u>First Sergeant</u> | <u>\$46,122</u> |
| 39 | <u>Lieutenant</u> | <u>\$50,298</u> |
| 40 | <u>Captain</u> | <u>\$52,386</u> |
| 41 | <u>Major</u> | <u>\$54,474</u> |
| 42 | <u>Lieutenant Colonel</u> | <u>\$56,562</u> |
| 43 | <u>Colonel</u> | |

44 Beginning July 1, 2018, and continuing thereafter, conservation officers shall receive
45 annual salaries as follows:

46 **ANNUAL SALARY SCHEDULE (BASE PAY)**

47 **SUPERVISORY AND NONSUPERVISORY RANKS**

| | | |
|----|---|-----------------|
| 48 | <u>Conservation Officer (In training 1-6 months)</u> | <u>\$31,122</u> |
| 49 | <u>Conservation Officer (After Training Through First Year)</u> | <u>37,958</u> |
| 50 | <u>Conservation Officer Second Year</u> | <u>38,922</u> |
| 51 | <u>Conservation Officer Third Year</u> | <u>39,294</u> |

| | | |
|----|--|---------------|
| 52 | <u>Senior Conservation Officer (4th - 6th Year)</u> | <u>39,682</u> |
| 53 | <u>Conservation Officer First Class (7th - 9th Year)</u> | <u>40,270</u> |
| 54 | <u>Corporal</u> | <u>40,858</u> |
| 55 | <u>Sergeant</u> | <u>45,034</u> |
| 56 | <u>First Sergeant</u> | <u>47,122</u> |
| 57 | <u>Lieutenant</u> | <u>51,298</u> |
| 58 | <u>Captain</u> | <u>53,386</u> |
| 59 | <u>Major</u> | <u>55,474</u> |
| 60 | <u>Lieutenant Colonel</u> | <u>57,562</u> |
| 61 | <u>Colonel</u> | |

62 Each conservation officer whose salary is fixed and specified in this annual salary
 63 schedule is entitled to the length of service increases set forth in section one-a of this article.

64 ~~Conservation officers in service at the time the amendment to this section becomes~~
 65 ~~effective~~ In applying the salary schedules set forth in this section where salary increases are
 66 provided for length of service, conservation officers in service at the time the schedules become
 67 effective shall be given credit for prior service and ~~shall be paid salaries as the same length of~~
 68 ~~service will entitle~~ paid salaries the same length of service entitles them to receive under the
 69 provisions of this section.

70 (c) This section does not apply to special or emergency conservation officers appointed
 71 under the authority of section one of this article.

72 ~~(d) Nothing in this section prohibits other pay increases as provided for under section two,~~
 73 ~~article five, chapter five of this code: *Provided, That any across the board pay increase granted*~~
 74 ~~by the Legislature or the Governor will be added to, and reflected in, the minimum salaries set~~
 75 ~~forth in this section; and that any merit increases granted to an officer over and above the annual~~
 76 ~~salary schedule listed in subsection (b) of this section are retained by an officer when he or she~~
 77 ~~advances from one rank to another.~~

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

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