



BARRY GLASSMAN

HARFORD COUNTY EXECUTIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Harford County Executive Glassman Proposes Enhanced Pension Benefits to Attract and Retain Correctional Officers

BEL AIR, Md., (April 14, 2021) - County Executive Barry Glassman has requested local legislation to significantly improve pension benefits for correctional officers in Harford County. The proposed benefit changes will apply only to those who retire on or after July 1, 2022.

[Bill 21-005](#) was introduced to the County Council Tuesday evening and a public hearing will be held on May 11, 2021.

Specifically, the legislation lowers pension eligibility from 25 years to 20 years of service, increases payouts based on average salary at retirement, and improves the military service credit toward pension benefits.

The pension enhancements are estimated to cost \$1.5 million per year once implemented, with the county contributing the lion's share of the annual cost. Employee contributions would increase from 7% to 9% beginning on July 1, 2021.

Correctional officers have advocated for pension enhancements.

"We appreciate our correctional deputies who do important and sometimes dangerous work to keep inmates and our community safe," County Executive Glassman said. "Offering better pension benefits will make us more competitive with other jurisdictions and will help the Harford County Sheriff's Office attract and retain these dedicated professionals."

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