

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Joint Resolution 5 (The Speaker)(By Request - Governor's Salary
 Commission)

Appropriations

**Governor's Salary Commission - Salary Recommendations for Governor and
 Lieutenant Governor**

This joint resolution adopts the salary recommendations of the Governor’s Salary Commission (GSC) for the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, effective January 20, 2027, for the upcoming term of office.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: No effect in FY 2027. General fund expenditures increase by \$6,800 in FY 2027 for salaries and fringe benefits. Future years reflect annualization and statutory salary increases. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	0	6,800	13,600	20,900	28,300
Net Effect	\$0	(\$6,800)	(\$13,600)	(\$20,900)	(\$28,300)

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill increases the salaries of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor for the next four-year term as depicted in **Exhibit 1**.

Exhibit 1
Salary Changes for the Governor and Lieutenant Governor

<u>Year of Term</u>	<u>Calendar Year</u>	<u>Governor</u>	<u>% Increase From Prior Year</u>	<u>Lieutenant Governor</u>	<u>% Increase From Prior Year</u>
First	2027	\$195,00	0.0%	\$175,000	0.0%
Second	2028	202,000	3.6%	180,000	2.9%
Third	2029	202,000	0.0%	180,000	0.0%
Fourth	2030	210,000	4.0%	185,000	2.8%

Current Law: GSC was established by a 1976 constitutional amendment to create a salary setting mechanism for the Governor and Lieutenant Governor. Since its inception, the commission has had seven members, including the State Treasurer, three persons appointed by the President of the Senate, and three persons appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates. Appointees serve a four-year term. Members of the General Assembly and officers and employees of the State or a political subdivision of the State are not eligible for appointment to the commission. The bill adopts the commission’s most recent recommendations for the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, which can be located in the [*Report of the Governor’s Salary Commission*](#), published in January 2026.

Beginning with the 1981 GSC, the commission has also made recommendations, per the Governor’s request, on salaries for four constitutional officers: State Treasurer, Comptroller of the Treasury, Attorney General, and Secretary of State.

The commission must submit salary recommendations for the Governor and Lieutenant Governor to the General Assembly within 10 calendar days after the beginning of the last regular General Assembly session in a four-year term of office.

The Maryland Constitution allows the resolution to be amended to decrease, but not increase, the salaries recommended by GSC. However, the salaries may not be decreased below their January 2026 levels. If the General Assembly fails to adopt the joint resolution within 50 calendar days after its introduction, the salaries recommended by GSC take effect.

State Expenditures: The estimate accounts for the new salary schedule going into effect on January 20, 2027, and assumes the calendar 2031 salaries for both the Governor and Lieutenant Governor are the same as those for calendar 2030.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: SJ 1 (The President)(By Request - Governor's Salary Commission) - Budget and Taxation.

Information Source(s): Governor's Office; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 18, 2026
js/mcr

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