

SB 424 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Manning Jr

**Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110
Implementation**

Action Date: 04/06/21

Action: Do pass.

Vote: 4-3-0-0

Yeas: 4 - Dembrow, Gelser, Manning Jr, Prozanski

Nays: 3 - Heard, Linthicum, Thatcher

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Channa Newell, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 3/31, 4/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows use of base pay of attorneys employed by public corporations, nonprofit organizations, public universities, cities, and counties as comparable base pay for assistant attorneys general if doing substantially similar work.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Process for comparison of pay
- Efforts to recruit and retain qualified attorneys
- Other entities that utilize specialized pay comparisons

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Public employees who are represented by a union must negotiate mandatory subjects of bargaining with their employer as part of the collective bargaining process. One mandatory subject of bargaining is base pay. If there is no agreement between the parties and an arbitrator is charged with making a decision, the arbitrator must base their findings and decision on the interest and welfare of the public and several additional factors. One additional factor is comparison of overall compensation to other employees performing similar work. Statutes give specific parameters for determining what comparable pay is for Department of State Police troopers and telecommunicators.

Senate Bill 424 allows the base pay of attorneys employed by a public corporation, nonprofit organizations, public universities, cities, and counties who perform similar work to serve as a comparison for the base pay of assistant attorneys general.