

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2023 and 2024 SB1754

Introduced 2/9/2023, by Sen. Christopher Belt

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

5 ILCS 100/5-45.35 new 50 ILCS 705/8.1

from Ch. 85, par. 508.1

Amends the Illinois Police Training Act. Provides that a training waiver from the Minimum Standards Basic Law Enforcement or County Correctional Training Course due to extensive prior law enforcement or county corrections experience shall be given whether or not the experience was obtained by employment by this State or any local governmental agency. Provides that, within 60 days after the effective date of the amendatory Act, the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board shall adopt uniform rules providing for a training waiver process for a person previously employed and qualified as a law enforcement or county corrections officer under federal law or the laws of any other state. Requires the rules to provide that any person previously employed or qualified as a law enforcement or county corrections officer under federal law or the laws of any other state shall successfully complete the following prior to the approval of a waiver: (1) a training program approved by the Board on the laws of this State relevant to the duties of law enforcement and county correctional officers; and (2) firearms training. Amends the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act. Grants the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board emergency rulemaking authority to implement the provisions of the amendatory Act.

LRB103 25495 AWJ 51844 b

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The Illinois Administrative Procedure Act is amended by adding Section 5-45.35 as follows:
- 6 (5 ILCS 100/5-45.35 new)
- Sec. 5-45.35. Emergency rulemaking; Illinois Law
 Enforcement Training Standards Board. To provide for the
- 9 <u>expeditious and timely implementation of the changes made in</u>
- 10 <u>Section 8.1 of the Illinois Police Training Act, emergency</u>
- 11 rules implementing the waiver process under Section 8.1 of the
- 12 <u>Illinois Police Training Act may be adopted in accordance with</u>
- 13 <u>Section 5-45</u> by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training
- 14 <u>Standards Board. The adoption of emergency rules authorized by</u>
- Section 5-45 and this Section is deemed to be necessary for the
- public interest, safety, and welfare.
- This Section is repealed one year after the effective date
- of this amendatory Act of the 103rd General Assembly.
- Section 10. The Illinois Police Training Act is amended by changing Section 8.1 as follows:
- 21 (50 ILCS 705/8.1) (from Ch. 85, par. 508.1)

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Sec. 8.1. Full-time law enforcement and county corrections officers.

(a) No person shall receive a permanent appointment as a law enforcement officer or a permanent appointment as a county corrections officer unless that person has been awarded, within 6 months of the officer's initial full-time employment, a certificate attesting to the officer's successful completion of the Minimum Standards Basic Law Enforcement or County Correctional Training Course as prescribed by the Board; or has been awarded a certificate attesting to the officer's satisfactory completion of a training program of similar content and number of hours and which course has been found acceptable by the Board under the provisions of this Act; or a training waiver by reason of extensive prior law enforcement or county corrections experience, whether or not the experience was obtained by employment by this State or any local governmental agency, the basic training requirement is determined by the Board to be illogical and unreasonable. Within 60 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 103rd General Assembly, the Board shall adopt uniform rules providing for a waiver process for a person previously employed and qualified as a law enforcement or county corrections officer under federal law or the laws of any other state. The rules shall provide that any person previously employed or qualified as a law enforcement or county corrections officer under federal law or the laws of any other

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state shall successfully complete the following prior to the 1 approval of a waiver: 2

> (1) a training program approved by the Board on the laws of this State relevant to the duties of law enforcement and county correctional officers; and

(2) firearms training.

If such training is required and not completed within the applicable 6 months, then the officer must forfeit the officer's position, or the employing agency must obtain a waiver from the Board extending the period for compliance. Such waiver shall be issued only for good and justifiable reasons, and in no case shall extend more than 90 days beyond the initial 6 months. Any hiring agency that fails to train a law enforcement officer within this period shall be prohibited from employing this individual in a law enforcement capacity for one year from the date training was to be completed. If an agency again fails to train the individual a second time, the agency shall be permanently barred from employing this individual in a law enforcement capacity.

An individual who is not certified by the Board or whose certified status is inactive shall not function as a law enforcement officer, be assigned the duties of a law enforcement officer by an employing agency, or be authorized to carry firearms under the authority of the employer, except as otherwise authorized to carry a firearm under State or federal law. Sheriffs who are elected as of January 1, 2022

1 (the effective date of <u>Public Act 101-652</u>) this amendatory Act
2 of the 101st General Assembly, are exempt from the requirement
3 of certified status. Failure to be certified in accordance
4 with this Act shall cause the officer to forfeit the officer's
5 position.

An employing agency may not grant a person status as a law enforcement officer unless the person has been granted an active law enforcement officer certification by the Board.

- (b) Inactive status. A person who has an inactive law enforcement officer certification has no law enforcement authority.
 - (1) A law enforcement officer's certification becomes inactive upon termination, resignation, retirement, or separation from the officer's employing law enforcement agency for any reason. The Board shall re-activate a certification upon written application from the law enforcement officer's law enforcement agency that shows the law enforcement officer: (i) has accepted a full-time law enforcement position with that law enforcement agency, (ii) is not the subject of a decertification proceeding, and (iii) meets all other criteria for re-activation required by the Board. The Board may also establish special training requirements to be completed as a condition for re-activation.

The Board shall review a notice for reactivation from a law enforcement agency and provide a response within 30

days. The Board may extend this review. A law enforcement officer shall be allowed to be employed as a full-time law enforcement officer while the law enforcement officer reactivation waiver is under review.

A law enforcement officer who is refused reactivation or an employing agency of a law enforcement officer who is refused reactivation under this Section may request a hearing in accordance with the hearing procedures as outlined in subsection (h) of Section 6.3 of this Act.

The Board may refuse to re-activate the certification of a law enforcement officer who was involuntarily terminated for good cause by an employing agency for conduct subject to decertification under this Act or resigned or retired after receiving notice of a law enforcement agency's investigation.

(2) A law enforcement agency may place an officer who is currently certified on inactive status by sending a written request to the Board. A law enforcement officer whose certificate has been placed on inactive status shall not function as a law enforcement officer until the officer has completed any requirements for reactivating the certificate as required by the Board. A request for inactive status in this subsection shall be in writing, accompanied by verifying documentation, and shall be submitted to the Board with a copy to the chief administrator of the law enforcement officer's current or

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new employing agency.

- (3) Certification that has become inactive under paragraph (2) of this subsection (b), shall be reactivated by written notice from the law enforcement officer's agency upon a showing that the law enforcement officer is:

 (i) is employed in a full-time law enforcement position with the same law enforcement agency, (ii) is not the subject of a decertification proceeding, and (iii) meets all other criteria for re-activation required by the Board.
- (4) Notwithstanding paragraph (3) of this subsection (b), a law enforcement officer whose certification has become inactive under paragraph (2) may have the officer's employing agency submit a request for a waiver of training requirements to the Board in writing and accompanied by any verifying documentation. A grant of a waiver is within the discretion of the Board. Within 7 days of receiving a request for a waiver under this Section section, the Board shall notify the law enforcement officer and the chief administrator of the law enforcement officer's employing agency, whether the request has been granted, denied, or if the Board will take additional time for information. A law enforcement agency whose request for a waiver under this subsection is denied, is entitled to request a review of the denial by the Board. The law enforcement agency must request a review within 20 days of

- the waiver being denied. The burden of proof shall be on the law enforcement agency to show why the law enforcement officer is entitled to a waiver of the legislatively required training and eligibility requirements.
 - (c) No provision of this Section shall be construed to mean that a county corrections officer employed by a governmental agency at the time of the effective date of this amendatory Act, either as a probationary county corrections officer or as a permanent county corrections officer, shall require certification under the provisions of this Section. No provision of this Section shall be construed to apply to certification of elected county sheriffs.
 - (d) Within 14 days, a law enforcement officer shall report to the Board: (1) any name change; (2) any change in employment; or (3) the filing of any criminal indictment or charges against the officer alleging that the officer committed any offense as enumerated in Section 6.1 of this Act.
 - (e) All law enforcement officers must report the completion of the training requirements required in this Act in compliance with Section 8.4 of this Act.
 - (e-1) Each employing law enforcement agency shall allow and provide an opportunity for a law enforcement officer to complete the mandated requirements in this Act. All mandated training shall $\frac{1}{\text{will}}$ be provided $\frac{1}{\text{for}}$ at no cost to the employees. Employees shall be paid for all time spent

- 1 attending mandated training.
- 2 (e-2) Each agency, academy, or training provider shall
- 3 maintain proof of a law enforcement officer's completion of
- 4 legislatively required training in a format designated by the
- 5 Board. The report of training shall be submitted to the Board
- 6 within 30 days following completion of the training. A copy of
- 7 the report shall be submitted to the law enforcement officer.
- 8 Upon receipt of a properly completed report of training, the
- 9 Board will make the appropriate entry into the training
- 10 records of the law enforcement officer.
- 11 (f) This Section does not apply to part-time law
- 12 enforcement officers or probationary part-time law enforcement
- 13 officers.
- 14 (g) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary,
- 15 the changes made to this Section by this amendatory Act of the
- 16 102nd General Assembly, Public Act 101-652, and Public Act
- 17 102-28, and Public Act 102-694 take effect July 1, 2022.
- 18 (Source: P.A. 101-187, eff. 1-1-20; 101-652, eff. 1-1-22;
- 19 102-28, eff. 6-25-21; 102-694, eff. 1-7-22; revised 2-3-22.)