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2 An act relating to candidates for public  
3 office; amending s. 99.012, F.S.; requiring a  
4 subordinate officer, deputy sheriff, or police  
5 officer seeking public office to resign or take  
6 a leave of absence, depending on certain  
7 circumstances relating to the office sought;  
8 providing an effective date.  
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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12 Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 99.012, Florida  
13 Statutes, is amended to read:

14 99.012 Restrictions on individuals qualifying for  
15 public office.--

16 (5)(a) A person who is a subordinate officer, deputy  
17 sheriff, or police officer must ~~need not~~ resign effective upon  
18 qualifying pursuant to this chapter if section unless the  
19 person is seeking to qualify for a public office that ~~which~~ is  
20 currently held by an officer who has authority to appoint,  
21 employ, promote, or otherwise supervise that person and who  
22 has qualified as a candidate for reelection to that office.

23 (b) However, Upon qualifying pursuant to this chapter,  
24 a the subordinate officer, deputy sheriff, or police officer  
25 who is seeking public office and who is not required to resign  
26 under paragraph (a) must take a leave of absence without pay  
27 during the period in which he or she is a candidate for  
28 office.

29 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
30 law.  
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