

By the Committee on Law Enforcement & Crime Prevention and Representative Futch

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to law enforcement academies;
3 amending s. 943.14, F.S.; requiring a criminal
4 history background check prior to entrance into
5 a basic recruit class; amending s. 943.17,
6 F.S.; requiring basic recruit candidates pass a
7 basic skills examination; providing an
8 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 (8) of section 943.14, Florida
13 Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (9), and a new
14 subsection (8) is added to said section to read:

15 943.14 Criminal justice training schools; certificates
16 and diplomas; exemptions; injunctive relief; fines.--

17 (8) Each criminal justice training school that offers
18 law enforcement, correctional, or correctional probation
19 officer basic recruit training, or selection center that
20 provides applicant screening for criminal justice training
21 schools, shall conduct a criminal history background check of
22 an applicant prior to entrance into the basic recruit class. A
23 complete set of fingerprints must be taken by an authorized
24 criminal justice agency or by an employee of the criminal
25 justice training school or selection center who is trained to
26 take fingerprints. The criminal justice training school or
27 selection center shall submit the fingerprints to the Florida
28 Department of Law Enforcement for a statewide criminal history
29 check, and forward the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of
30 Investigation for a national criminal history check.
31 Applicants found through fingerprint processing to have pled

1 guilty to or been convicted of a crime which would render the
2 applicant unable to meet the minimum qualifications for
3 employment as an officer as specified in s. 943.13(4) shall be
4 removed from the pool of qualified candidates by the criminal
5 justice training school or selection center.

6 Section 2. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (1) of
7 section 943.17, Florida Statutes, to read:

8 943.17 Basic recruit, advanced, and career development
9 training programs; participation; cost; evaluation.--The
10 commission shall, by rule, design, implement, maintain,
11 evaluate, and revise job-related curricula and performance
12 standards for basic recruit, advanced, and career development
13 training programs and courses. The rules shall include, but
14 are not limited to, a methodology to assess relevance of the
15 subject matter to the job, student performance, and instructor
16 competency.

17 (1) The commission shall:

18 (g) Assure that entrance into the basic recruit
19 training program for law enforcement, correctional, and
20 correctional probation officers be limited to those who have
21 passed a basic skills examination and assessment instrument,
22 based on a job task analysis in each discipline and adopted by
23 the commission.

24 Section 3. This act shall take effect January 1, 2001.

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27 HOUSE SUMMARY

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29 Requires a criminal history background check of
30 applicants for basic recruit training and requires basic
31 recruit candidates to pass a basic skills examination.