

Bill No. SB 2002

Amendment No.      Barcode 885878

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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Senator Crist moved the following amendment:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause

and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 943.16, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsections (4), (5), (6), and (7) are added to said section, to read:

943.16 Payment of tuition or officer certification examination fee by employing agency; reimbursement of tuition, other course expenses, wages, and benefits.--

(2)(a) A trainee who attends such approved training program at the expense of an employing agency must remain in the employment or appointment of such employing agency for a period of not less than 2 years after graduation from the basic recruit training program ~~1 year~~. If employment or appointment is terminated on the trainee's own initiative within 2 years ~~1 year~~, he or she shall reimburse the employing agency for the full cost of his or her ~~participation; and such employing agency may institute a civil action to collect such~~

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1 ~~tuition cost if it is not reimbursed tuition, other course~~  
2 ~~expenses, and additional amounts as provided in paragraph (b).~~

3 (b) In addition to reimbursement for the full cost of  
4 tuition and other course expenses, a trainee terminating  
5 employment as provided in paragraph (a) shall reimburse the  
6 employing agency for the trainee's wages and benefits paid by  
7 the employing agency during the academy training period  
8 according to the following schedule:

9 1. For a trainee terminating employment within 6  
10 months of graduation from the basic recruit training program,  
11 the full amount of wages and benefits paid during the academy  
12 training period.

13 2. For a trainee terminating employment within 6  
14 months and 1 day to 12 months of graduation from the basic  
15 recruit training program, an amount equal to three-fourths of  
16 the full amount of wages and benefits paid during the academy  
17 training period.

18 3. For a trainee terminating employment within 12  
19 months and 1 day to 18 months of graduation from the basic  
20 recruit training program, an amount equal to one-half of the  
21 full amount of wages and benefits paid during the academy  
22 training period.

23 4. For a trainee terminating employment within 18  
24 months and 1 day to 24 months of graduation from the basic  
25 recruit training program, an amount equal to one-fourth of the  
26 full amount of wages and benefits paid during the academy  
27 training period.

28 (4) An employing agency may institute a civil action  
29 to collect such cost of tuition, other course expenses, wages,  
30 and benefits as provided in this section if it is not  
31 reimbursed, provided that the employing agency gave written

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1 notification to the trainee of the 2-year employment  
2 commitment during the employment screening process. The  
3 trainee shall return signed acknowledgement of receipt of such  
4 notification.

5 (5) For purposes of this section, "academy training  
6 period" means the period of time that a trainee is attending  
7 an approved basic recruit training program in a law  
8 enforcement or correctional officer academy class for purposes  
9 of obtaining certification pursuant to chapter 943, until the  
10 date of graduation from such class. The term "other course  
11 expenses" includes the cost of meals.

12 (6) This section does not apply to trainees who  
13 terminate employment with the employing agency and resign  
14 their certification upon termination in order to obtain  
15 employment for which certification under chapter 943 is not  
16 required. Further, this section does not apply to trainees  
17 attending auxiliary officer training.

18 (7) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, an  
19 employing agency may waive a trainee's requirement of  
20 reimbursement in part or in full when the trainee terminates  
21 employment due to hardship or extenuating circumstances.

22 Section 2. This act shall take effect on July 1, 2003,  
23 and shall apply to basic recruit training classes commencing  
24 after that date.

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27 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

28 And the title is amended as follows:

29 Delete everything before the enacting clause

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31 and insert:

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to law enforcement officer training; amending s. 943.16, F.S.; requiring trainees attending approved basic recruit training programs to reimburse an employing agency for tuition, other course expenses, wages, and benefits paid by the agency if the employee terminates his or her employment or appointment within a specified time period after graduation; providing a schedule for reimbursement of a trainee's wages and benefits; authorizing an employing agency to institute civil action under certain circumstances; providing definitions; providing applicability; authorizing an employing agency to waive reimbursement requirements under certain circumstances; providing a conditional effective date.