Florida Senate - 2007

By Senator Saunders

37-379-07

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to law enforcement and
3	correctional officers; amending s. 943.13,
4	F.S.; requiring certain applicants for
5	employment to complete a recertification
6	course; amending s. 943.131, F.S.; conforming
7	provisions; reenacting s. 943.1395, F.S.,
8	relating to certification of such officers, to
9	incorporate the amendments made to s. 943.13,
10	F.S., in a reference thereto; providing an
11	effective date.
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13	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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15	Section 1. Subsection (9) of section 943.13, Florida
16	Statutes, is amended to read:
17	943.13 Officers' minimum qualifications for employment
18	or appointmentOn or after October 1, 1984, any person
19	employed or appointed as a full-time, part-time, or auxiliary
20	law enforcement officer or correctional officer; on or after
21	October 1, 1986, any person employed as a full-time,
22	part-time, or auxiliary correctional probation officer; and on
23	or after October 1, 1986, any person employed as a full-time,
24	part-time, or auxiliary correctional officer by a private
25	entity under contract to the Department of Corrections, to a
26	county commission, or to the Department of Management Services
27	shall:
28	(9) Complete a commission-approved basic recruit
29	training program for the applicable criminal justice
30	discipline, unless exempt under this subsection.
31	(a) An applicant who has:
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Florida Senate - 2007 37-379-07

1 1.(a) Completed a comparable basic recruit training 2 program for the applicable criminal justice discipline in another state or for the Federal Government; and 3 4 2.(b) Served as a full-time sworn officer in another state or for the Federal Government for at least 1 year 5 6 provided there is no more than an 8-year break in employment, 7 as measured from the separation date of the most recent 8 qualifying employment to the time a complete application is 9 submitted for an exemption under this section, 10 is exempt in accordance with s. 943.131(2) from completing the 11 12 commission-approved basic recruit training program. 13 (b) However, an applicant who has a break in employment of more than 8 years and who otherwise meets the 14 requirements of this section must complete a 120-hour 15 recertification course that emphasizes firearms training and a 16 17 review of the applicable laws of this state. Such course may 18 be conducted by the hiring agency. Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 943.131, Florida 19 Statutes, is amended to read: 20 21 943.131 Temporary employment or appointment; minimum 22 basic recruit training exemption .--23 (2)(a) If an applicant seeks an exemption from completing a commission-approved basic recruit training 2.4 25 program, the employing agency must verify that the applicant has successfully completed a comparable basic recruit training 26 27 program for the discipline in which the applicant is seeking 2.8 certification in another state or for the Federal Government. 29 Further, the employing agency must verify that the applicant has served as a full-time sworn officer in another state or 30 for the Federal Government for at least 1 year provided there 31

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1 is no more than an 8-year break in employment, as measured 2 from the separation date of the most recent qualifying employment to the time a complete application is submitted for 3 an exemption under this section. If there has been more than 4 an 8-year break in employment, the applicant must comply with 5 б the requirements of s. 943.13(9)(b). 7 (b) When the employing agency obtains written 8 documentation regarding the applicant's criminal justice experience, the documentation must be submitted to the 9 10 commission. The commission shall adopt rules that establish criteria and procedures to determine if the applicant is 11 12 exempt from completing the commission-approved basic recruit 13 training program and, upon making a determination, shall notify the employing agency. An applicant who is exempt from 14 completing the commission-approved basic recruit training 15 program must demonstrate proficiency in the high-liability 16 17 areas, as defined by commission rule, and must complete the requirements of s. 943.13(10) within 1 year after receiving an 18 exemption. If the proficiencies and requirements of s. 19 943.13(10) are not met within the 1 year, the applicant must 20 21 complete a commission-approved basic recruit training program, 22 as required by the commission by rule. Except as provided in 23 subsection (1), before the employing agency may employ or appoint the applicant as an officer, the applicant must meet 2.4 the minimum qualifications described in s. 943.13(1)-(8), and 25 26 must fulfill the requirements of s. 943.13(10). 27 Section 3. For the purpose of incorporating the 2.8 amendments made by this act to section 943.13, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, section 943.1395, Florida 29 30 Statutes, is reenacted to read: 31

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Florida Senate - 2007 37-379-07

1	943.1395 Certification for employment or appointment;
2	concurrent certification; reemployment or reappointment;
3	inactive status; revocation; suspension; investigation
4	(3) Any certified officer who has separated from
5	employment or appointment and who is not reemployed or
б	reappointed by an employing agency within 4 years after the
7	date of separation must meet the minimum qualifications
8	described in s. 943.13, except for the requirement found in s.
9	943.13(9). Further, such officer must complete any training
10	required by the commission by rule. Any such officer who is
11	not reemployed or reappointed by an employing agency within 8
12	years after the date of separation must meet the minimum
13	qualifications described in s. 943.13, to include the
14	requirement of s. 943.13(9).
15	Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.
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18	SENATE SUMMARY
19	Revises provisions relating to training requirements for
	applicants for certain law enforcement and correctional
20	applicants for certain law enforcement and correctional officer positions. Requires applicants with prior
20 21	applicants for certain law enforcement and correctional
	applicants for certain law enforcement and correctional officer positions. Requires applicants with prior experience who have had a break in employment of more
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SB 496

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