

1                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to certification of 911 public safety  
 3           telecommunicators; amending s. 401.465, F.S.; revising  
 4           requirements for certification of 911 public safety  
 5           telecommunicators; providing conditions under which  
 6           the requirement for certification as a 911 public  
 7           safety telecommunicator may be waived for certain law  
 8           enforcement officers; providing for exemption from the  
 9           examination fee; providing an effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13           Section 1. Paragraphs (d) and (j) of subsection (2) of  
 14           section 401.465, Florida Statutes, are amended, paragraph (k) of  
 15           that subsection is redesignated as paragraph (l), and a new  
 16           paragraph (k) is added to that subsection, to read:

17           401.465 911 public safety telecommunicator certification.—

18           (2) PERSONNEL; STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION.—

19           (d) The department shall determine whether the applicant  
 20           meets the requirements specified in this section and in rules of  
 21           the department and shall issue a certificate to any person who  
 22           meets such requirements. Such requirements must include the  
 23           following:

24           1. Completion of an appropriate 911 public safety  
 25           telecommunication training program;

26           2. Certification under oath that the applicant is not  
 27           addicted to alcohol or any controlled substance;

28           3. Certification under oath that the applicant is free

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29 from any physical or mental defect or disease that might impair  
30 the applicant's ability to perform his or her duties;

31 4. Submission of the application fee prescribed in  
32 subsection (3);

33 5. Submission of a completed application to the department  
34 which indicates compliance with subparagraphs 1., 2., and 3.;  
35 and

36 6. Effective October 1, 2012, passage of an examination  
37 approved ~~administered~~ by the department which measures the  
38 applicant's competency and proficiency in the subject material  
39 of the public safety telecommunication training program.

40 (j) If a person was employed as a 911 public safety  
41 telecommunicator, ~~a sworn state-certified law enforcement~~  
42 ~~officer~~, or a state-certified firefighter before April 1, 2012,  
43 he or she must pass the examination approved ~~administered~~ by the  
44 department which measures the competency and proficiency in the  
45 subject material of the public safety telecommunication program,  
46 as defined in paragraph (1)(c). Upon passage of the examination,  
47 the completion of the public safety telecommunication training  
48 program is ~~shall be~~ waived.

49 (k)1. The requirement for certification as a 911 public  
50 safety telecommunicator is waived for a person employed as a  
51 sworn state-certified law enforcement officer, provided the  
52 officer:

53 a. Is selected by his or her chief executive to perform as  
54 a 911 public safety telecommunicator;

55 b. Performs as a 911 public safety telecommunicator on an  
56 occasional or limited basis; and

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57 c. Passes the department-approved examination that  
58 measures the competency and proficiency of an applicant in the  
59 subject material comprising the public safety telecommunication  
60 program.

61 2. A sworn state-certified law enforcement officer who  
62 fails an examination taken under subparagraph 1. must take a  
63 department-approved public safety telecommunication training  
64 program prior to retaking the examination.

65 3. The testing required under this paragraph is exempt  
66 from the examination fee required under subsection (3).

67 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.