01/12/2012



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House Comm: RCS

The Committee on Community Affairs (Richter) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and paragraphs (d) and (j) of subsection (2) of section 401.465, Florida Statutes, are amended, present paragraph (k) of subsection (2) of that section is redesignated as subsection (1), and a new paragraph (k) is added to that subsection, to read:

401.465 911 public safety telecommunicator certification.-

(1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

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- (a) "911 public safety telecommunicator" means a public safety dispatcher or 911 operator whose duties and responsibilities include the answering, receiving, transferring, and dispatching functions related to 911 calls; dispatching law enforcement officers, fire rescue services, emergency medical services, and other public safety services to the scene of an emergency; providing real-time information from federal, state, and local crime databases; or supervising or serving as the command officer to a person or persons having such duties and responsibilities. However, the term does not include:
- 1. Administrative support personnel, including, but not limited to, those whose primary duties and responsibilities are in accounting, purchasing, legal, and personnel; or-
- 2. A sworn state-certified law enforcement officer who is selected by the chief executive officer of the law enforcement agency that employs the law enforcement officer and who performs on an occasional or limited basis as a public safety telecommunicator.
 - (2) PERSONNEL; STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION.-
- (d) The department shall determine whether the applicant meets the requirements specified in this section and in rules of the department and shall issue a certificate to any person who meets such requirements. Such requirements must include the following:
- 1. Completion of an appropriate 911 public safety telecommunication training program;
- 2. Certification under oath that the applicant is not addicted to alcohol or any controlled substance;
 - 3. Certification under oath that the applicant is free from

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

- 4. Submission of the application fee prescribed in subsection (3):
- 5. Submission of a completed application to the department which indicates compliance with subparagraphs 1., 2., and 3.; and
- 6. Effective October 1, 2012, passage of an examination approved administered by the department which measures the applicant's competency and proficiency in the subject material of the public safety telecommunication training program.
- (j) If a person was employed as a 911 public safety telecommunicator, a sworn state-certified law enforcement officer, or a state-certified firefighter before April 1, 2012, he or she must pass the examination administered by the department which measures the competency and proficiency in the subject material of the public safety telecommunication program, as defined in paragraph (1)(c). Upon passage of the examination, the completion of the public safety telecommunication training program is shall be waived.
- (k) Upon the passage of the examination approved by the department which measures the competency and proficiency in the subject material of the public safety telecommunication program, a person who is employed as a sworn state-certified law enforcement officer and selected by the chief executive officer of the law enforcement agency that employs the law enforcement officer is not required to complete a public safety telecommunication training program in order to perform on an occasional or limited basis as a public safety telecommunicator.



The fees in subsection (3) do not apply to testing under this paragraph. A sworn state-certified law enforcement officer who fails the examination taken under this paragraph must complete the 40-hour public safety telecommunication training program sponsored by the Department of Law Enforcement or complete a public safety telecommunication training program approved by the department before retaking the examination.

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

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========= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========== And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to public safety; amending s. 401.465, F.S.; providing that a sworn state-certified law enforcement officer under certain circumstances is not included in the definition of the term "911 public safety telecommunicator"; providing that a sworn state-certified law enforcement officers is not required to complete a public safety telecommunication training program under certain circumstances in order to occasionally perform as a public safety telecommunicator; providing that the application fee and examination fee to take the examination that measures the competency and proficiency in the subject material of a public safety telecommunication program do not apply to a sworn state-certified law enforcement officer who occasionally performs as a

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public safety telecommunicator; requiring that a sworn state-certified law enforcement officer who fails the examination complete a public safety telecommunication training program before retaking the examination; providing an effective date.