

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Department of Law Enforcement;
3 amending s. 112.195, F.S.; authorizing the Department
4 of Law Enforcement to adopt rules relating to the
5 Florida Medal of Valor and Florida Blue/Red Heart
6 Medal programs; amending s. 406.02, F.S.; specifying
7 that appointments and reappointments of members to the
8 Medical Examiners Commission within the department are
9 considered in force until certain conditions are met;
10 requiring the commission to appoint district medical
11 examiners by a majority vote to fill vacancies;
12 amending s. 406.06, F.S.; requiring the commission,
13 rather than the Governor, to appoint district medical
14 examiners for medical examiner districts; providing
15 that physician members of the commission are eligible
16 to serve as district medical examiners upon approval
17 by the commission, rather than by the Governor;
18 amending s. 943.11, F.S.; requiring the Criminal
19 Justice Professionalism Program to provide staff
20 support to the Criminal Justice Standards and Training
21 Commission within the department; requiring the
22 commission to act independently of any criminal
23 justice agency; amending s. 943.1395, F.S.; providing
24 manners of administrative complaint service by the
25 Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission to

law enforcement, correctional, and correctional probation officers; amending ss. 943.1726, 943.17261, 943.1727, and 943.17299, F.S.; requiring the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission, rather than the department, to establish online continued employment training components relating to diabetic emergencies, online initial training and continuing education courses relating to medical use of marijuana, continued employment training components relating to autism spectrum disorder, and online continued employment training components relating to Alzheimer's disease and related forms of dementia, respectively; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Effective upon becoming a law, subsection (4) is added to section 112.195, Florida Statutes, to read:

112.195 Florida Medal of Valor and Florida Blue/Red Heart Medal.—

(4) The Department of Law Enforcement may adopt rules to implement this section.

Section 2. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (4) of section 406.02, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (c) and (d), respectively, subsection (2) is amended, and a new

51 **paragraph (b) is added to subsection (4) of that section, to**
52 **read:**

53 406.02 Medical Examiners Commission; membership; terms;
54 duties; staff.—

55 (2) The term of office of the physicians appointed to the
56 commission shall be 4 years. The term of office of the state
57 attorney, public defender, sheriff, and county commissioner each
58 shall be 4 years unless she or he leaves that office sooner, in
59 which case her or his appointment will terminate. The term of
60 office of the funeral director shall be 4 years. Upon the
61 expiration of the present terms of office, the Governor shall
62 appoint two members for terms of 4 years, two members for terms
63 of 3 years, two members for terms of 2 years, and one member for
64 a term of 1 year. An appointment to fill a vacancy shall be for
65 the unexpired portion of the term. An appointment or
66 reappointment is considered in force until the appointee resigns
67 or no longer qualifies for the position or until the Governor
68 appoints a new member.

69 (4) The Medical Examiners Commission shall:

70 (b) Appoint district medical examiners by a majority vote
71 to fill a vacancy.

72 **Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 406.06, Florida**
73 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

74 406.06 District medical examiners; associates; suspension
75 of medical examiners.—

76 (1) (a) A district medical examiner shall be appointed by
77 the Medical Examiners Commission ~~Governor~~ for each medical
78 examiner district from nominees who are practicing physicians in
79 pathology, ~~whose nominations are submitted to the Governor by~~
80 ~~the Medical Examiners Commission~~. The term of office of each
81 district medical examiner shall be 3 years. An appointment to
82 fill a vacancy shall be for the unexpired portion of the term.

83 (b) A physician member of the Medical Examiners Commission
84 shall be eligible to serve as a district medical examiner upon
85 approval by the commission ~~Governor~~.

86 **Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section**
87 **943.11, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

88 943.11 Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission;
89 membership; meetings; compensation.—

90 (1) (a) There is created a Criminal Justice Standards and
91 Training Commission within the Department of Law Enforcement.
92 The Criminal Justice Professionalism Program shall provide staff
93 support to the commission as authorized in s. 943.09; however,
94 the commission must act independently of any criminal justice
95 agency. The commission shall be composed of 19 members,
96 consisting of the Secretary of Corrections or a designated
97 assistant; the Attorney General or a designee; the Director of
98 the Division of the Florida Highway Patrol; and 16 members
99 appointed by the Governor, consisting of 3 sheriffs; 3 chiefs of
100 police; 5 law enforcement officers who are of the rank of

sergeant or below within the employing agency; 2 correctional officers, 1 of whom is an administrator of a state correctional institution and 1 of whom is of the rank of sergeant or below within the employing agency; 1 training center director; 1 person who is in charge of a county correctional institution; and 1 resident of the state who falls into none of the foregoing classifications. Prior to the appointment, the sheriff, chief of police, law enforcement officer, and correctional officer members must have had at least 4 years' experience as law enforcement officers or correctional officers.

Section 5. Subsection (11) is added to section 943.1395, Florida Statutes, to read:

943.1395 Certification for employment or appointment; concurrent certification; reemployment or reappointment; inactive status; revocation; suspension; investigation.—

(11) Notwithstanding s. 120.60(5), when an administrative complaint is served on a certified law enforcement officer, correctional officer, correctional probation officer, or instructor, commission staff shall provide service by certified mail to the certified officer's or instructor's last known address of record and, if possible, by e-mail. If service does not provide commission staff with proof of service, commission staff shall call the last known telephone number of record and cause a short, plain notice to the certified officer or instructor to be posted on the front page of the commission's

126 website.

127 **Section 6. Section 943.1726, Florida Statutes, is amended**
128 **to read:**

129 943.1726 Continued employment training relating to
130 diabetic emergencies.—The commission ~~department~~ shall establish
131 an online continued employment training component relating to
132 diabetic emergencies. The training component shall include, but
133 need not be limited to, instruction on the recognition of
134 symptoms of such an emergency, distinguishing such an emergency
135 from alcohol intoxication or drug overdose, and appropriate
136 first aid for such an emergency. Completion of the training
137 component may count toward the 40 hours of instruction for
138 continued employment or appointment as a law enforcement officer
139 required under s. 943.135.

140 **Section 7. Section 943.17261, Florida Statutes, is amended**
141 **to read:**

142 943.17261 ~~Department of Law Enforcement;~~ Training related
143 to medical use of marijuana.—The commission ~~Department of Law~~
144 ~~Enforcement~~ shall develop a 4-hour online initial training
145 course, and a 2-hour online continuing education course, which
146 shall be made available for use by all law enforcement agencies
147 in this state. Such training shall cover the legal parameters of
148 marijuana-related activities governed by ss. 381.986 and 381.988
149 relating to criminal laws governing marijuana.

150 **Section 8. Section 943.1727, Florida Statutes, is amended**

151 **to read:**

152 943.1727 Continued employment training relating to autism
153 spectrum disorder.—The commission ~~department~~ shall establish a
154 continued employment training component relating to autism
155 spectrum disorder as defined in s. 627.6686. The training
156 component shall include, but need not be limited to, instruction
157 on the recognition of the symptoms and characteristics of an
158 individual on the autism disorder spectrum and appropriate
159 responses to an individual exhibiting such symptoms and
160 characteristics. Completion of the training component may count
161 toward the 40 hours of instruction for continued employment or
162 appointment as a law enforcement officer required under s.
163 943.135.

164 **Section 9. Section 943.17299, Florida Statutes, is amended**
165 **to read:**

166 943.17299 Continued employment training relating to
167 Alzheimer's disease and related forms of dementia.—The
168 commission ~~department~~ shall establish an online, continued
169 employment training component relating to Alzheimer's disease
170 and related forms of dementia. The training component must be
171 developed in consultation with the Department of Elder Affairs
172 and must include, but need not be limited to, instruction on
173 interacting with persons with Alzheimer's disease or a related
174 form of dementia, including instruction on techniques for
175 recognizing behavioral symptoms and characteristics, effective

176 communication, employing the use of alternatives to physical
177 restraints, and identifying signs of abuse, neglect, or
178 exploitation. Completion of the training component may count
179 toward the 40 hours of instruction for continued employment or
180 appointment as a law enforcement officer, correctional officer,
181 or correctional probation officer required under s. 943.135.

182 **Section 10.** Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
183 act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon
184 this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1,
185 2026.