

§§9, 14, 15, 17-21
C.52:17B-71a
to 52:17B-71h
§§10
C.52:17B-67.1
§16
C.52:17B-77.16a
§22
Approp.
§23
Repealer
§24
Note

P.L. 2022, CHAPTER 65, *approved July 21, 2022*
Senate Committee Substitute for Senate, No. 2742

1 AN ACT concerning licensing of law enforcement officers by the
2 Police Training Commission, amending, supplementing, and
3 repealing various parts of the statutory law, and making an
4 appropriation.

5

6 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
7 *of New Jersey:*

8

9 1. Section 1 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-66) is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 1. The Legislature of New Jersey hereby finds and declares that
12 a serious need for improvement in the administration of local and
13 county law enforcement exists in order to better protect the health,
14 safety and welfare of its citizens; that police work, a basic adjunct
15 of law enforcement administration, is professional in nature, and
16 requires proper educational and clinical training in a State whose
17 population is increasing in relation to its physical area, and in a
18 society where greater reliance on better law enforcement through
19 higher standards of efficiency is of paramount need; that the present
20 need for improvement can be substantially met by the creation of a
21 compulsory educational and training program for persons who seek
22 to become permanent law enforcement officers wherein such
23 persons will be required, while serving in a probationary capacity
24 prior to permanent appointment, to receive efficient training in this
25 profession provided at facilities selected, approved and inspected
26 by a commission created for such purpose; and that by qualifying
27 and becoming proficient in the field of law enforcement such
28 persons shall individually and collectively better insure the health,

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 safety and welfare of the citizens of this State in their respective
2 communities.

3 The Legislature further finds and declares that, in addition to
4 providing proper educational and clinical training to law
5 enforcement officers in this State, it is also important, in order to
6 help protect the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens, that
7 appropriately-situated State authorities are accorded the ability and
8 responsibility to monitor and take appropriate action against any
9 law enforcement officer who acts outside the bounds of
10 professionalism or engages in illegal or improper conduct.
11 Professional licensure provides the means to help ensure that those
12 individuals who serve as law enforcement officers in this State
13 uphold the public trust by meeting and maintaining appropriately
14 high standards of training and professionalism, in qualifying for the
15 positions, and in performing the duties. Therefore, it is necessary
16 and appropriate to establish a Statewide licensure system, through
17 which the Police Training Commission will promulgate and apply
18 uniform standards of professional conduct by law enforcement
19 officers, establish minimum standards for licensure, review and take
20 action on initial and renewal applications of applicants and law
21 enforcement officers and applicants who meet those standards, and
22 deny, revoke, or suspend licenses due to failure to meet or maintain
23 those standards.

24 Nothing in this act is intended to limit in any manner the powers
25 and authority granted to the Attorney General as the chief law
26 enforcement officer of the State pursuant to the Criminal Justice
27 Act of 1970, P.L.1970, c.74 (C.52:17B-97 et seq.).

28 (cf: P.L.1965, c.8, s.1)

29

30 2. Section 2 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-67) is amended to
31 read as follows:

32 2. As used in this act:

33 “Applicant” means an individual who applies to the Police
34 Training Commission to become licensed as a law enforcement
35 officer in accordance with P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
36 Legislature as this bill).

37 "Approved school" shall mean a school approved and authorized
38 by the Police Training Commission to give police training courses
39 or a training course for State and county correctional police officers
40 and juvenile detention officers as prescribed in this act.

41 "Commission" shall mean the Police Training Commission or
42 officers or employees thereof acting on its behalf.

43 "County" shall mean any county which within its jurisdiction has
44 or shall have a law enforcement unit as defined in this act.

45 “Discipline subject to appeal” means a removal, disciplinary
46 demotion, suspension, or fine of more than five days, or fewer
47 where the aggregate number of days the employee was suspended
48 or fined in any one calendar year is 15 or more days, or where the

1 employee received more than three suspensions or fines of five days
2 or fewer in one calendar year.

3 “Law enforcement officer” means any person who is employed
4 as a sworn member of any State, county, or municipal law
5 enforcement agency, department, division, or instrumentality of
6 those governments who is statutorily empowered to act for the
7 detection, investigation, arrest, conviction, detention, or
8 rehabilitation of persons violating the criminal laws of the State.
9 This term shall include, but is not limited to, sworn members of the
10 New Jersey State Police, the Division of Criminal Justice, and the
11 Juvenile Justice Commission; State correctional police officers
12 pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1968, c.427 (C.2A:154-4); county
13 correctional police officers pursuant to N.J.S.2A:154-3; State Parole
14 officers pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1968, c.427 (C.2A:154-4);
15 special law enforcement officers of all classes pursuant to P.L.1985,
16 c.439 (C.40A:14-146.8 et seq.); humane law enforcement officers
17 appointed pursuant to section 25 of P.L.2017, c.331 (C.4:22-14.1)
18 or section 28 of P.L.2017, c.331 (C.4:22-14.4); transit police
19 officers appointed by New Jersey Transit pursuant to section 2 of
20 P.L.1989 c.291 (C.27:25-15.1); and campus police officers
21 appointed pursuant to P.L.1970, c.211 (C.18A:6-4.2 et seq.).

22 "Law enforcement unit" shall mean any [police force or
23 organization in a municipality or county which has by statute or
24 ordinance the responsibility of detecting crime and enforcing the
25 general criminal laws of this] State, county or municipal law
26 enforcement agency, department, division, or instrumentality of
27 such government that is statutorily empowered to act for the
28 detection, investigation, arrest, conviction, detention, or
29 rehabilitation of persons violating the criminal laws of the State,
30 and shall include all agencies that employ law enforcement officers
31 as defined in this section.

32 “Licensing committee” means the committee established by the
33 Police Training Commission to perform duties with respect to law
34 enforcement officer licensing as set forth in subsection c. of section
35 9 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this
36 bill).

37 "Municipality" shall mean a city of any class, township, borough,
38 village, [camp meeting association,] or any other type of
39 municipality in this State which, within its jurisdiction, has or shall
40 have a law enforcement unit as defined in this act.

41 “National Decertification Index” shall mean the national registry
42 of law enforcement officer decertification or license revocations
43 maintained by the International Association of Directors of Law
44 Enforcement Standards and Training, or a successor database.

45 "Permanent appointment" shall mean an appointment having
46 permanent status as a [police] law enforcement officer in a law
47 enforcement unit as prescribed by Title 11A of the New Jersey
48 Statutes, Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations, or of

1 any other law of this State, municipal ordinance, or rules and
2 regulations adopted thereunder.

3 **["Police officer"** shall mean any employee of a law enforcement
4 unit, including sheriff's officers and county investigators in the
5 office of the county prosecutor, other than civilian heads thereof,
6 assistant prosecutors and legal assistants, persons appointed
7 pursuant to the provisions of R.S.40:47-19, persons whose duties do
8 not include any police function, court attendants, State and county
9 correctional police officers, juvenile correctional police officers,
10 and juvenile detention officers.]

11 "Police training course" means a training course approved by the
12 Police Training Commission and conducted at an approved school.

13 "Probationary law enforcement license" means a license issued
14 by the Police Training Commission to a person appointed by a law
15 enforcement unit on a probationary or temporary basis which
16 authorizes the person to perform the functions of a permanent law
17 enforcement officer during the person's probationary or temporary
18 appointment term.

19 "Sustained finding" shall mean a determination by an employing
20 law enforcement unit that a law enforcement officer violated a law;
21 regulation; directive, guideline, policy, or procedure issued by the
22 Attorney General or County Prosecutor; agency protocol; standing
23 operating procedure; rule; or training.

24 (cf: P.L.2019, c.219, s.8)

25

26 3. Section 3 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-68) is amended to
27 read as follows:

28 3. a. Every **[municipality and]** State, county, and municipal
29 agency, with the exception of the New Jersey State Police, that
30 employs law enforcement officers as defined in section 2 of
31 P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-67), as applicable, shall authorize
32 attendance at an approved school by persons holding a probationary
33 appointment as a **[police]** law enforcement officer, and every
34 **[municipality and county]** agency shall require that no person shall
35 hereafter be given or accept a permanent appointment as a **[police]**
36 law enforcement officer unless such person has successfully
37 completed a police training course at an approved school; provided,
38 however, that the commission may, in its discretion, except from
39 the requirements of this section any person who demonstrates to the
40 commission's satisfaction that **[he]** the person has successfully
41 completed a police training course conducted by any Federal, State
42 or other public or private agency, the requirements of which are
43 substantially equivalent to the requirements of this act.

44 b. A **[police]** law enforcement officer who is terminated from
45 an agency for reasons of economy or efficiency shall be granted an
46 exemption or waiver from retaking the basic training course if,
47 within **[five]** three years from the date of termination, the **[police]**

1 law enforcement officer is appointed to a similar law enforcement
2 position in another agency or is reemployed by the agency from
3 which **[he]** the officer was terminated.
4 (cf: P.L.2011, c.158, s.1)

5

6 4. Section 4 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-69) is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 4. a. Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S.11:2-6, a
9 probationary or temporary appointment as a **[police]** law
10 enforcement officer may be made for a total period not exceeding
11 one year for the purpose of enabling a person seeking permanent
12 appointment to take a police training course as prescribed in this
13 act, provided, however, that the time period may exceed one year
14 for those persons enrolled prior to the one-year limit in a police
15 training course scheduled to end subsequent to the one-year limit,
16 and for those persons who, prior to the one-year limit, have been
17 scheduled to attend a police training course which commences
18 subsequent to the one-year limit. In no case shall any extension
19 granted for the reasons herein listed exceed six months. Every
20 person holding such a probationary or temporary appointment shall
21 enroll in a police training course, and such appointee shall be
22 entitled to a leave of absence with pay during the period of the
23 police training course.

24 b. A person holding a probationary or temporary appointment
25 on the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
26 Legislature as this bill) shall not be permitted to continue in the
27 probationary or temporary appointment beyond one year after the
28 effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
29 Legislature as this bill) unless the person enrolls in or completes a
30 basic training course approved by the commission.

31 c. A person appointed on a probationary or temporary basis on
32 or after the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
33 the Legislature as this bill) shall not perform the functions or duties
34 of a permanently appointed law enforcement officer unless the
35 person completes a basic training course approved by the
36 commission. Upon successful completion of the basic training
37 course, a person appointed on a probationary or temporary basis on
38 or after the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
39 the Legislature as this bill) shall receive from the commission a
40 one-year probationary law enforcement license, as defined in
41 section 2 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-67), and the person shall be
42 permitted to perform full police functions or duties during the
43 person's probationary or temporary appointment.

44 d. Upon successful completion of a probationary or temporary
45 appointment, a person may apply for licensure as a permanent law
46 enforcement officer in a manner prescribed by the commission
47 pursuant to P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as
48 this bill). The probationary license shall remain in force and effect

1 until the commission acts upon the application for licensure as a
2 permanent law enforcement officer.

3 (cf: P.L.1998, c.146, s.1)

4

5 5. Section 2 of P.L.1998, c.146 (C.52:17B-69.1) is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 2. a. A person who does not hold a probationary or temporary
8 appointment as a **【police】** law enforcement officer, but who is
9 seeking such an appointment may enroll in a police training course
10 provided that person:

11 (1) meets the general qualifications for a police officer set forth
12 in N.J.S.40A:14-122 and such other qualifications as the
13 commission may deem appropriate; and

14 (2) applies to and is accepted by a commission approved school
15 for admission to a police training course.

16 The person may be charged a fee by the commission or approved
17 school, as the case may be, not exceeding that which the
18 commission approved school charges a governmental employer for
19 the training of an employee holding a probationary or temporary
20 appointment.

21 An appointing authority may, at its discretion, reimburse a
22 person who has completed a police training course pursuant to this
23 section for all or part of the costs of training.

24 b. The commission, in accordance with the provisions of the
25 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
26 seq.), shall promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the
27 purposes of this section.

28 (cf: P.L.1998, c.146, s.2)

29

30 6. Section 3 of P.L.1998, c.146 (C.52:17B-69.2) is amended to
31 read as follows:

32 3. A person who completes a police training course pursuant to
33 section 2 of P.L.1998, c.146 (C.52:17B-69.1) shall only be eligible
34 for appointment as a permanent full-time member of a **【police**
35 **department or force】** law enforcement unit or as a Class Two
36 Special Law Enforcement Officer pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1985,
37 c.439 (C.40A:14-146.11).

38 (cf: P.L.1998, c.146, s.3)

39

40 7. Section 5 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-70) is amended to
41 read as follows:

42 5. There is hereby established in the Division of Criminal
43 Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety a Police
44 Training Commission whose membership shall consist of the
45 following persons:

46 a. **【Two】** Four citizens of this State who shall be appointed by
47 the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate for terms of

1 three years **【**commencing with the expiration of the terms of the
2 citizen members, other than the representative of the New Jersey
3 Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, now in office**】**.

4 b. The president or other representative designated in
5 accordance with the bylaws of each of the following organizations:
6 the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police; the New
7 Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association, Inc.; the New
8 Jersey State League of Municipalities; the New Jersey State Lodge,
9 Fraternal Order of Police; the State Troopers Fraternal Association
10 of New Jersey; the County Prosecutors' Association of New Jersey;
11 the Sheriffs' Association of New Jersey; the Police Academy
12 Directors Association; the New Jersey County Jail Wardens
13 Association; the New Jersey Juvenile Detention Association; and
14 the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives.

15 c. The Attorney General, the Superintendent of State Police,
16 the Commissioner of Education, **【**the Secretary of Higher
17 Education,**】** the Commissioner of Corrections, and the Chairman of
18 the State Parole Board, ex officio, or **【**when so designated by
19 them,**】** their **【**deputies**】** designees.

20 d. The Special Agent in Charge of the State of New Jersey for
21 the Federal Bureau of Investigation or a designated representative.

22 e. The Police Training Commission shall ensure that all
23 commission members, during their tenure as commissioners,
24 annually complete confidentiality, ethics, and other training as
25 required by the Attorney General's Office. The commission shall
26 also ensure that all newly appointed public members of the
27 commission complete a course designed to familiarize the members
28 with relevant law enforcement training concepts, including but not
29 limited to the use of force policy and internal affairs policy and
30 procedures to help the members carry out their duties under P.L. ,
31 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

32 (cf: P.L.2015, c.258, s.1)

33

34 8. Section 6 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-71) is amended to
35 read as follows:

36 6. The commission **【**is vested with the power, responsibility
37 and duty:**】** shall establish requisite standards for the training of law
38 enforcement officers and oversee the implementation of those
39 standards.

40 The commission shall have the authority:

41 a. To prescribe standards for the approval and continuation of
42 approval of schools at which police training courses authorized by
43 this act and in-service police training courses shall be conducted,
44 including but not limited to currently existing regional, county,
45 municipal, and police chief association police training schools or at
46 which basic training courses and in-service training courses shall be

- 1 conducted for State and county juvenile and adult correctional
2 police officers and juvenile detention officers;
- 3 b. To approve and issue certificates of approval to these
4 schools, to inspect the schools from time to time, and to revoke any
5 approval or certificate issued to the schools;
- 6 c. To prescribe the curriculum, the minimum courses of study,
7 attendance requirements, equipment and facilities, and standards of
8 operation for these schools【.Courses of study in crime prevention
9 may be recommended to the Police Training Commission by the
10 Crime Prevention Advisory Committee, established by section 2 of
11 P.L.1985, c.1 (C.52:17B-77.1). The Police Training Commission
12 may】 and prescribe psychological and psychiatric examinations for
13 police recruits 【while in the schools】;
- 14 d. To prescribe minimum qualifications for instructors at these
15 schools and to certify, as qualified, instructors for approved police
16 training schools and to issue appropriate certificates to the
17 instructors;
- 18 e. To certify 【police officers, correctional police officers,
19 juvenile correctional police officers, and juvenile detention】 law
20 enforcement officers who have satisfactorily completed training
21 programs and to issue appropriate certificates to 【the police
22 officers, correctional police officers, juvenile correctional police
23 officers, and juvenile detention】 the officers;
- 24 f. To advise and consent in the appointment of an
25 administrator of police services by the Attorney General pursuant to
26 section 8 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-73);
- 27 g. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1985, c.491)
- 28 h. To make rules and regulations as may be reasonably
29 necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purposes and objectives
30 of this act;
- 31 i. To make a continuous study of police training methods and
32 training methods for 【correctional police officers, juvenile
33 correctional police officers, and juvenile detention】 law
34 enforcement officers and to consult and accept the cooperation of
35 any recognized federal or State law enforcement agency or
36 educational institution;
- 37 j. To consult and cooperate with universities, colleges, and
38 institutes in the State for the development of specialized courses of
39 study for 【police】 law enforcement officers in police science and
40 police administration;
- 41 k. To consult and cooperate with other departments and
42 agencies of the State concerned with police training or the training
43 of 【correctional police officers, juvenile correctional police
44 officers, and juvenile detention】 law enforcement officers;
- 45 l. To participate in unified programs and projects relating to
46 police training and the training of 【correctional police officers,
47 juvenile correctional police officers, and juvenile detention】 law

- 1 enforcement officers sponsored by any federal, State, or other
2 public or private agency;
- 3 m. To perform other acts as may be necessary or appropriate to
4 carry out its functions and duties as set forth in this act;
- 5 n. To extend the time limit for satisfactory completion of police
6 training programs or programs for the training of **【**correctional
7 police officers, juvenile correctional police officers, and juvenile
8 detention**】** law enforcement officers upon a finding that health,
9 extraordinary workload, or other factors have, singly or in
10 combination, effected a delay in the satisfactory completion of the
11 training program;
- 12 o. (1) To furnish approved schools, for inclusion in their
13 regular police training courses and curriculum, with information
14 concerning the advisability of high speed chases, the risk caused by
15 them, and the benefits resulting from them, and to include any other
16 relevant police training courses that will assist the commission in
17 providing efficient training;
- 18 (2) To **【**review and approve new standards and course curricula
19 for**】** consult the New Jersey State Police with respect to its
20 administration of police training courses or programs **【**to be offered
21 by approved schools**】** for the training of **【**police**】** law enforcement
22 officers to be certified as a Drug Recognition Expert for detecting,
23 identifying, and apprehending drug-impaired motor vehicle
24 operators**【**. The commission shall**】**, and to consult with the
25 Cannabis Regulatory Commission established by 31 of P.L.2019,
26 c.153 (C.24:6I-24) with respect to any aspects of the course
27 curricula that focus on impairment from the use of cannabis items
28 as defined by section 3 of P.L.2021, c.16 (C.24:6I-33) or marijuana.
29 **【**Any police officer certified and recognized by the commission as a
30 Drug Recognition Expert prior to the effective date of this section,
31 as amended by the "New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory, Enforcement
32 Assistance, and Marketplace Modernization Act," P.L.2021, c.16
33 (C.24:6I-31 et al.), shall continue to be recognized as certified until
34 that certification has expired or is no longer considered valid as
35 determined by the commission, or the certification is replaced by
36 the police officer with a new certification in accordance with the
37 new standards and course curricula for certification described in
38 this paragraph.**】**
- 39 p. **【**To review and approve new standards and course curricula
40 developed by the Department of Corrections for both basic and in-
41 service training of State and county correctional police officers and
42 juvenile detention officers. These courses for the State correctional
43 police officers and juvenile detention officers shall be centrally
44 provided at the Corrections Officers' Training Academy of the
45 Department of Corrections. Courses for the county correctional
46 police officers and juvenile detention officers shall also be centrally
47 provided at the Corrections Officers' Training Academy unless an

1 off-grounds training program is established by the county. A
2 county may elect to establish and conduct a basic training program
3 for correctional police officers and juvenile detention officers
4 seeking permanent appointment in that county. The Corrections
5 Officers' Training Academy shall develop the curriculum of the
6 basic training program to be conducted by a county; ~~1~~ (Deleted by
7 amendment, P.L. c.) (pending before the Legislature as this
8 bill)

9 q. To administer and distribute the monies in the Law
10 Enforcement Officers Training and Equipment Fund established by
11 section 9 of P.L.1996, c.115 (C.2C:43-3.3) and make rules and
12 regulations for the administration and distribution of the monies as
13 may be necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purpose for
14 which the fund was established.
15 (cf: P.L.2021, c.16, s.85)

16

17 9. (New section) The commission shall establish the process by
18 which law enforcement officers shall be licensed and the
19 implementation of that process. The commission is vested with the
20 power, responsibility, and duty:

21 a. to prescribe minimum standards and requirements for the
22 licensure for law enforcement officers and to maintain the status as
23 a licensed law enforcement officer for the purpose of promoting and
24 assuring integrity, competence, professionalism, and fitness for
25 duty. The minimum standards shall include, but not be limited to:

26 (1) minimum pre-employment qualifications for law
27 enforcement officer applicants, including but not limited to, age
28 requirements, residency requirements, background investigations,
29 psychological examinations, and educational requirements;

30 (2) minimum post-academy training and educational
31 requirements, including but not limited to required field training
32 hours for recent academy graduates and required continuing
33 educational courses for law enforcement officers; and

34 (3) minimum standards of professional conduct;

35 b. to establish a licensure process and applicable criteria for
36 license issuance, renewal, suspension, revocation, or denial; and

37 c. to perform or cause to be performed through the licensing
38 committee the following activities related to law enforcement
39 officer licensing:

40 (1) review applications for and, if warranted, issue initial law
41 enforcement officer licenses to qualified applicants;

42 (2) review and act upon matters related to law enforcement
43 officer license renewal, suspension, revocation, or denial;

44 (3) conduct license renewal, suspension, revocation, or denial
45 hearings; and

46 (4) suspend, revoke, place conditions upon, or deny a license in
47 the event an individual does not meet any standard or requirement
48 prescribed by the commission.

1 d. The commission shall establish a licensing committee to
2 assist it in exercising the authority provided under this act,
3 including duties with respect to law enforcement officer licensing
4 as set forth in subsection c. of this section and section 19 of P.L. ,
5 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), and
6 including but not limited to, making recommendations for licensure
7 to be considered by the full commission.

8 The composition, membership, terms of membership, and
9 procedures applicable to the function and operations of the
10 licensing committee shall be determined by the commission,
11 provided that the membership of the licensing committee shall
12 include the Attorney General's designee and no less than one public
13 member.

14
15 10. (New section) A person shall not be employed as a law
16 enforcement officer, as defined in section 2 of P.L.1961, c.56
17 (C.52:17B-67), in this State unless the person holds a valid, active
18 license as a law enforcement officer issued in accordance
19 with P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this
20 bill). A person shall not act as a law enforcement officer, as
21 defined in section 2 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-67), in this State
22 beyond the scope of the authorization provided pursuant to any
23 designations to the license approved by the Police Training
24 Commission.

25
26 11. Section 4 of P.L.2008, c.80 (C.52:17B-71.9) is amended to
27 read as follows:

28 4. a. The Police Training Commission in the Department of
29 Law and Public Safety shall adopt a training course regarding the
30 risks associated with autism or an intellectual or other
31 developmental disability and appropriate recognition and response
32 techniques concerning these disabilities based on the curriculum
33 developed by the Departments of Health and Senior Services and
34 Human Services pursuant to subsection a. of section 2 of P.L.2008,
35 c.80 (C.26:2-190). The training course shall be administered by the
36 employing agency as part of the in-service training provided to each
37 local police officer in each law enforcement unit operating in this
38 State.

39 b. Prior to being appointed to permanent status as a local
40 **【police】** law enforcement officer in a law enforcement unit, an
41 individual shall be required to complete the training course adopted
42 under subsection a. of this section. Every local **【police】** law
43 enforcement officer appointed prior to the effective date of **【this**
44 **act】** P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this
45 bill) shall, within 36 months of the effective date of **【this act】**
46 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),

1 satisfactorily complete a training course in recognition and response
2 techniques concerning these disabilities.

3 c. The Police Training Commission shall adopt rules and
4 regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
5 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to effectuate the purposes of
6 this act.

7 (cf: P.L.2008, c.80, s.4)

8

9 12. Section 7 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-72) is amended to
10 read as follows:

11 7. a. Except as expressly provided in **[this act]** P.L.1961, c.56
12 (C.52:17B-66 et seq.), nothing herein contained shall be deemed to
13 limit the powers, rights, duties or responsibilities of municipal or
14 county governments, nor to affect provisions of Title 11 of the
15 Revised Statutes, provided that a determination by the Civil Service
16 Commission that an individual is eligible for appointment as a law
17 enforcement officer shall not be construed to affect or limit the
18 commission's ability to take any action authorized under
19 P.L. c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
20 with respect to an applicant or licensee.

21 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any statute, rule,
22 regulation or collective bargaining agreement to the contrary, the
23 commission shall have the sole authority to establish training
24 standards and certification for approved schools, and the licensure
25 requirements for a law enforcement officer as defined in section 2
26 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-67).

27 (cf: P.L.1961, c.56, s.7)

28

29 13. Section 10 of P.L.1961. c.56 (C.52:17B-75) is amended to
30 read as follows:

31 10. The members of the commission shall receive no salary but
32 all members except those designated in subsection c. of section 5
33 of this act shall be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses
34 lawfully incurred in the performance of their official functions.
35 The members of the commission who are employed by the State, a
36 county, a municipality or any State, county, or local governmental
37 entity shall not be subject to loss of pay or accrued time due to
38 attending commission meetings or otherwise performing the official
39 commission functions.

40 (cf: P.L.1963, c.81, s.13)

41

42 14. (New section) a. The applicant for an initial law
43 enforcement license or a probationary license shall have the burden
44 of demonstrating to the satisfaction of the commission that the
45 applicant meets all requirements for the issuance of a law
46 enforcement license. The requirements for an initial license and a
47 probationary license shall include, but not be limited to, that an
48 applicant:

- 1 (1) be at least 18 years of age;
- 2 (2) be a citizen of the United States, if required for the position
3 for which licensure is sought;
- 4 (3) be at least a high school graduate or have earned a General
5 Educational Development (GED) diploma;
- 6 (4) be fingerprinted in accordance with the standards established
7 by the commission;
- 8 (5) have passed a medical examination by a licensed physician,
9 physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice registered nurse,
10 based on specifications established by the commission;
- 11 (6) have passed a psychological examination by a licensed
12 psychologist or psychiatrist based on specifications established by
13 the commission;
- 14 (7) be of good moral character as determined by a background
15 investigation conducted under the procedures established by the
16 commission and successfully pass a criminal background records
17 check in accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA),
18 28 C.F.R. 115.317, if applicable;
- 19 (8) successfully meet and complete all required basic physical
20 and educational training courses as required by the commission;
- 21 (9) successfully pass a drug screening test as prescribed by the
22 commission;
- 23 (10) possess a valid driver's license;
- 24 (11) not have received a dishonorable discharge from military
25 service;
- 26 (12) successfully complete any probationary period prescribed
27 by the commission;
- 28 (13) not have been convicted of any of the following:
 - 29 (a) a crime in this State or any other state, territory, country, or
30 of the United States, including a conviction of an offense which if
31 committed in this State would be deemed a crime under either State
32 or federal law without regard to its designation elsewhere;
 - 33 (b) an act of domestic violence pursuant to P.L.1991, c.261
34 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.);
 - 35 (c) an offense that would preclude an applicant from carrying a
36 firearm as defined by N.J.S.2C:39-1;
 - 37 (d) a disorderly persons offense or petty disorderly persons
38 offense involving dishonesty, fraud, or a lack of good moral
39 character, unless the commission determines the offense to be de
40 minimis in nature or inconsequential to the applicant's ability to
41 meet the standards expected of a law enforcement officer;
 - 42 (e) two or more motor vehicle offenses for operating a motor
43 vehicle while under the influence of drugs or alcohol pursuant to
44 R.S.39:4-50 or two or more motor vehicle offenses for reckless
45 driving pursuant to R.S.39:4-96; or
 - 46 (f) any offense listed in (b) through (e) of this paragraph
47 committed in violation of the laws of another state, territory,
48 country, or the United States;

1 (14)not be the subject of or had a domestic violence restraining
2 order pursuant to P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.), an extreme
3 risk protective order, or a temporary extreme risk protective order
4 pursuant to P.L.2018, c.35 (C.2C:58-20 et seq.) issued against the
5 applicant;

6 (15)not be an active member of a group or organization that
7 advocates for, espouses, or promotes the overthrow of a local, state,
8 or federal government or discrimination or violence against or
9 hatred or bias toward individuals or groups based on race, creed,
10 color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, marital status, sexual
11 orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other protected
12 characteristic under the “Law Against Discrimination,” P.L.1945,
13 c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), or knowingly engage in any activity,
14 conduct, or behavior relating to such group or organization with the
15 intent to support, endorse or advocate for, or which the applicant
16 knows or should know will have the effect of supporting,
17 furthering, or advocating for, the goals of such group or
18 organization, where active membership or knowing engagement
19 would undermine public confidence in the ability of the individual
20 law enforcement officer or the employing law enforcement agency
21 to carry out the public safety mission, or where active membership
22 or knowing engagement would cause substantial disruption to
23 proper law enforcement functioning;

24 (16) not have engaged in conduct or behavior in the applicant’s
25 personal or professional life, including, but not limited to, making
26 statements, posting, sharing, or commenting in support of any
27 posting, on social media or otherwise, that demonstrates, espouses,
28 advocates, or supports discrimination or violence against, or hatred
29 or bias toward, individuals or groups based on race, creed, color,
30 national origin, ancestry, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation,
31 gender identity or expression, or any other protected characteristic
32 under the “Law Against Discrimination,” P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1
33 et seq.), where the conduct or behavior would undermine public
34 confidence in the ability of the individual law enforcement officer
35 or the employing law enforcement agency to carry out the public
36 safety mission, or where the conduct or behavior would cause
37 substantial disruption to proper law enforcement functioning;

38 (17) provide to the commission and the applicant’s employing
39 law enforcement unit a complete list of all social media accounts
40 maintained by the applicant and grant to the commission and the
41 applicant’s employing law enforcement unit access to all outwardly
42 facing activity and publicly accessible components of the accounts;

43 (18) not currently be listed on the National Decertification Index
44 as being decertified as a law enforcement officer or having the
45 license or certification as a law enforcement officer revoked or
46 denied;

47 (19) pay or cause to be paid any fees, if applicable, established
48 by the commission; and

1 (20) any other requirements established by the commission.

2 b. The commission may waive the requirements of
3 subparagraphs (d) and (e) of paragraph (13) of subsection a. of this
4 section if the applicant demonstrates to the licensing committee's
5 satisfaction that:

6 (1) the applicant's conviction or convictions occurred five or
7 more years prior to submission of an application for licensure as a
8 law enforcement officer;

9 (2) the applicant has taken rehabilitative steps since the
10 applicant's conviction or convictions to become a law-abiding
11 citizen through actions, including but not limited to continuing
12 education, maintaining gainful employment, and having no further
13 convictions; and

14 (3) the applicant is currently of good moral character and
15 submits at least three letters of recommendation from members of
16 the applicant's community detailing the applicant's good moral
17 character.

18 c. An applicant for licensure shall provide to the commission
19 or the applicant's employing law enforcement unit documented
20 proof, in a form and manner as required by the commission, that the
21 applicant is in compliance with paragraphs (1) through (20) of
22 subsection a. of this section. The commission shall promulgate in
23 its rules and regulations the form, manner, and substance of
24 documents required by the commission to provide sufficient proof
25 of the qualifications required by this section. An application for
26 initial licensure or license renewal of a person employed as full-
27 time sworn member of any State, county, or municipal law
28 enforcement agency or department, division or instrumentality of
29 those governments on the effective date of
30 P.L. , c. (C.)(pending before the Legislature as this bill)
31 shall not be denied based solely on consideration of disciplinary
32 actions based on conduct occurring prior to the date of enactment of
33 P.L. , c. (C.)(pending before the Legislature as this bill).

34 d. The commission shall have the authority to issue a license
35 for employment as a law enforcement officer if an applicant
36 satisfies all licensing requirements. A license issued pursuant to
37 this section shall expire three years after its date of issuance, before
38 which time the law enforcement officer shall be required to apply
39 for a license renewal pursuant to section 17 of P.L. , c. (C.)
40 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

41 e. Law enforcement officers from jurisdictions outside of New
42 Jersey and federal law enforcement officers applying for licensure
43 in this State shall be required to meet all of the requirements set
44 forth in this section and also shall be required to complete a waiver
45 form that allows the commission and any hiring law enforcement
46 unit to review the officer's internal affairs records from any and all
47 prior law enforcement positions.

1 f. A person appointed as a permanent law enforcement officer
2 prior to the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
3 the Legislature as this bill) shall apply for a law enforcement
4 license in accordance with section 17 of P.L. , c. (C.)
5 (pending before the Legislature as this bill). The commission shall
6 devise a process and schedule for submission of a law enforcement
7 license application for the officers.

8 g. At the discretion of the commission, licenses issued pursuant
9 to this section may serve as authorization for a licensee to serve in
10 one of the following positions, provided the licensee meets the
11 requisite qualifications for that status: a full-time permanent law
12 enforcement officer; a Class One, Class Two, or Class Three special
13 law enforcement officer; or a probationary law enforcement officer.

14 h. In all situations where a law enforcement officer has been
15 convicted of an offense set forth in subparagraph (a), (b), or (c) of
16 paragraph (13) of subsection a. of this section, the commission shall
17 deny the issuance of a license to an applicant.

18 i. Any decision to deny a license shall be accompanied by a
19 written statement in a form to be prescribed by the commission.
20

21 15. (New section) a. An employing law enforcement unit shall
22 be responsible for the collection, verification, and maintenance of
23 documentation establishing that an applicant meets the minimum
24 qualifications for employment as a law enforcement officer.

25 b. When all of the documentation concerning an applicant is
26 obtained, the employing law enforcement unit shall submit the
27 documentation to the commission for verification and review in a
28 manner prescribed by the commission.

29 c. The commission shall adopt rules and regulations
30 establishing the procedure to submit licensing application
31 documents.

32 d. The commission shall review an applicant's documentation
33 submitted for licensure to determine eligibility for the issuance of a
34 law enforcement license.
35

36 16. (New section) a. The chief law enforcement officer of an
37 employing law enforcement unit shall notify the commission in
38 writing, on a form prescribed by the commission, of a law
39 enforcement officer's appointment to or employment with the law
40 enforcement unit, which shall include the commencement date of
41 such appointment or employment.

42 b. The chief law enforcement officer of an employing law
43 enforcement unit shall notify the commission, in writing, on a form
44 prescribed by the commission, of the following employment actions
45 concerning a law enforcement officer:

46 (1) the separation from appointment or employment with the
47 law enforcement unit, which includes any firing, termination,

- 1 resignation, retirement, or voluntary or involuntary extended leave
2 of absence, which notice shall include the date of separation;
- 3 (2) the imposition of any discipline subject to appeal;
- 4 (3) any suspension of more than five days or 40 hours duration,
5 imposed pending investigation or disciplinary action;
- 6 (4) any sustained finding that a law enforcement officer used
7 excessive force;
- 8 (5) any pending criminal charge or conviction of any crime,
9 disorderly persons, petty disorderly persons, or driving while
10 intoxicated offense;
- 11 (6) any sustained finding that a law enforcement officer is unfit
12 for duty;
- 13 (7) any sustained finding that the law enforcement officer filed a
14 false report or submitted a false certification in any criminal,
15 administrative, employment, financial, or insurance matter in the
16 officer's professional or personal life;
- 17 (8) any sustained finding that the law enforcement officer
18 mishandled or destroyed evidence;
- 19 (9) any sustained finding that the law enforcement officer was
20 untruthful or demonstrated a lack of candor; and
- 21 (10) any sustained finding that the law enforcement officer is
22 biased against a particular class of people based on race, creed,
23 color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, sexual
24 orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other protected
25 characteristic under the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945,
26 c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).
- 27 In addition to the completed form, the employing law
28 enforcement unit shall provide additional supporting information
29 and documentation as may be required by the commission. The
30 employing law enforcement unit shall maintain the original form
31 and submit, or electronically transmit, the information required
32 under this subsection to the commission within two business days
33 of the employment action. Notwithstanding any other provision of
34 law, the completed forms and information submitted to the
35 commission pursuant to this section shall not, by virtue of having
36 been required pursuant to this section, constitute a public record
37 under P.L.1963, c.73 (C.47:1A-1 et seq.) or a government record
38 subject to access pursuant to P.L.2001, c.404 (C.47:1A-5 et seq.),
39 but shall be accessible when otherwise required to be disclosed by
40 law.
- 41 c. In a case of separation from employment, the employing law
42 enforcement unit shall execute and maintain a form adopted by the
43 commission, setting forth in detail the facts and reasons for the
44 separation. The information contained in the form shall be
45 submitted, or electronically transmitted, to the commission within
46 two business days. If the officer is separated for the officer's
47 failure to comply with the provisions of P.L. , c. (C.)
48 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), the notice shall specify

1 this. Any law enforcement officer who has separated from
2 employment for cause shall be permitted to respond to the
3 separation, in writing, to the commission, setting forth the facts and
4 reasons for the separation as the officer understands them. The
5 response shall be submitted to the commission within two business
6 days of the separation.

7 d. Before employing a licensed law enforcement officer, a
8 subsequent employing law enforcement unit shall contact the
9 commission to inquire as to the facts and reasons an officer was
10 separated from any previous employing unit. The commission shall,
11 upon request and without prejudice, provide to the subsequent
12 employing law enforcement unit all information that is required
13 under subsections a., b., and c. of this section that is in its
14 possession. Notwithstanding this provision, a law enforcement unit
15 seeking to hire a law enforcement officer shall comply with the
16 provisions of section 1 of P.L.2020, c.52 (C.52:17B-247) and
17 request that officer's internal affairs and personnel files from the
18 officer's previous employing law enforcement units.

19 e. Whenever a law enforcement officer voluntarily separates
20 from employment with a law enforcement unit to commence
21 employment at another unit, the chief law enforcement officer of
22 the former law enforcement unit shall notify the commission in
23 writing in advance, if possible, but no later than two business days
24 after the officer's departure. Upon separation from employment,
25 the law enforcement officer's license shall be placed on inactive
26 status, unless the commission has previously acted to approve the
27 officer's active status at the new employing law enforcement unit.
28 The chief law enforcement officer of that unit shall make
29 application to the commission, in a manner prescribed by the
30 commission, through its regulations, prior to or within two business
31 days of the officer's appointment date to restore the officer's
32 license to active status. The commission shall consider the
33 application and render a decision concerning the reactivation of the
34 officer's license.

35 f. It shall be unlawful for any State, county, or municipal
36 agency, law enforcement unit, or licensed law enforcement officer
37 to enter into any non-disclosure agreement which seeks to conceal
38 or prevent public review of the circumstances under which the
39 officer separated from or was terminated or fired from employment
40 by the law enforcement unit or State, county, or municipal agency.

41
42 17. (New section) a. A law enforcement officer required to
43 renew the officer's license or a person appointed as a permanent
44 law enforcement officer prior to the effective date of
45 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
46 shall submit an application for law enforcement license renewal
47 through the officer's employing law enforcement unit to the
48 commission. The application for law enforcement license renewal

1 shall be on a form adopted by the commission and shall require the
2 law enforcement officer and the chief law enforcement officer of
3 the officer's employing law enforcement unit to certify that the
4 officer:

5 (1) is of good moral character as determined by a background
6 investigation conducted under the procedures established by the
7 commission;

8 (2) successfully meets and has completed all commission
9 required physical and educational training courses;

10 (3) has not been convicted of:

11 (a) a crime in this State or any other state, territory, country, or
12 of the United States, including a conviction of an offense which if
13 committed in this State would be deemed a crime under either state
14 or federal law without regard to its designation elsewhere;

15 (b) an act of domestic violence pursuant to P.L.1991, c.261
16 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.);

17 (c) an offense that would preclude an applicant from carrying a
18 firearm as defined by N.J.S.2C:39-1;

19 (d) a disorderly persons offense or petty disorderly persons
20 offense involving dishonesty, fraud, or a lack of good moral
21 character, unless the commission determines the offense to be de
22 minimis in nature or inconsequential to the applicant's ability to
23 meet the standards expected of a law enforcement officer;

24 (e) two or more motor vehicle offenses for operating a motor
25 vehicle while under the influence of drugs or alcohol pursuant to
26 R.S.39:4-50 or two or more motor vehicle offenses for reckless
27 driving pursuant to R.S.39:4-96; or

28 (f) any offense listed in subparagraph (b) through (e) of this
29 paragraph committed in violation of the laws of another state,
30 territory, country, or the United States.

31 (4) is not an active member of a group or organization that
32 advocates for, espouses or promotes the overthrow of a local, state
33 or federal government or discrimination or violence against or
34 hatred or bias toward individuals or groups based on race, creed,
35 color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, sexual
36 orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other protected
37 characteristic under the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945,
38 c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.), and has not knowingly engaged in any
39 activity, conduct, or behavior relating to the group or organization
40 with the intent to support, endorse or advocate for, or which the
41 officer knows or should know will have the effect of supporting,
42 furthering, or advocating for, the goals of the group or organization,
43 where active membership or knowing engagement undermines or
44 tends to undermine public confidence in the ability of the individual
45 law enforcement officer or the employing law enforcement agency
46 to carry out the public safety mission, or where active membership
47 or knowing engagement causes or threatens to cause substantial
48 disruption to proper law enforcement functioning; and

1 (5) has not engaged in conduct or behavior in the officer's
2 personal or professional life, including but not limited to, making
3 statements, posting, sharing, or commenting in support of any
4 posting on social media or otherwise that demonstrates, espouses,
5 advocates or supports discrimination or violence against, or hatred
6 or bias toward individuals or groups based on race, creed, color,
7 national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, sexual orientation,
8 gender identity or expression, or any other protected characteristic
9 under the "Law Against Discrimination," P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1
10 et seq.), where the conduct or behavior would undermine public
11 confidence in the ability of the individual law enforcement officer
12 or the employing law enforcement agency to carry out the public
13 safety mission, or where the conduct or behavior would cause
14 substantial disruption to proper law enforcement functioning.

15 b. A law enforcement officer who is unable to certify to any
16 item enumerated in subsection a. of this section shall disclose to the
17 commission the reason the officer cannot make the certification.
18 The commission shall consider this information in determining
19 whether the officer's license shall be renewed.

20 c. In addition to the information contained in the law
21 enforcement license renewal application form, the commission may
22 request any additional information it deems relevant to determine
23 whether a law enforcement officer's license should be renewed.
24 The information may include a summary of a law enforcement
25 officer's internal affairs file, or the entire file as the commission
26 deems necessary. An employing law enforcement unit or the law
27 enforcement officer shall provide all additional information
28 requested by the commission.

29 d. A license issued pursuant to section 14 of
30 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
31 may be renewed administratively, under terms and conditions
32 established by the commission, without requiring review by the
33 licensing committee pursuant to subsection d. of section 9 of
34 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) or
35 conducting a hearing pursuant to section 19 of
36 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),
37 if the licensee and the licensee's employing law enforcement unit
38 submit the certifications required pursuant to subsection a. of this
39 section and if a notice of an employment action concerning the
40 licensee has not been submitted to or is not required to be submitted
41 to the commission in accordance with subsection b. of section 16 of
42 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

43 e. The license of a law enforcement officer who is active and in
44 good standing and who has timely submitted a completed renewal
45 application which the commission fails to act upon prior to the
46 license expiration date shall be deemed in force and effect until the
47 time as the commission acts upon the renewal application, provided
48 that nothing in this subsection shall be construed to preclude the

1 commission from exercising the authority provided under section 18
2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)
3 during that interval or thereafter.

4 f. Any decision to deny a license renewal shall be accompanied
5 by a written statement in a form to be prescribed by the
6 commission.

7
8 18. (New section) a. The commission shall have authority to
9 impose an adverse license action as set forth in subsection b. of this
10 section if the applicant or officer has:

11 (1) failed to demonstrate or adhere to the minimum
12 qualifications under section 14 of P.L. , c. (C.)(pending
13 before the Legislature as this bill), or in the rules and regulations of
14 the commission when applying for a license or license renewal;

15 (2) knowingly made misleading, deceptive, untrue, or fraudulent
16 representations in the practice of being a law enforcement officer or
17 in any document connected therewith or practiced fraud or deceit or
18 intentionally made any false statement in obtaining a license to be
19 an officer;

20 (3) been convicted of a crime in this State or any other state,
21 territory, country, or of the United States. As used in this
22 paragraph, the term "convicted of a crime" shall include a
23 conviction of an offense which if committed in this State would be
24 deemed a crime under either state or federal law without regard to
25 its designation elsewhere;

26 (4) committed a crime involving moral turpitude, without regard
27 to conviction. The conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude
28 shall be conclusive of the commission of the crime;

29 (5) been convicted of an act of domestic violence as defined by
30 section 1 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.);

31 (6) had the officer's law enforcement license revoked,
32 suspended, or annulled by any lawful certifying or licensing
33 authority, had other disciplinary action taken against the officer by
34 any lawful certifying or licensing authority, or was denied a license
35 by any lawful certifying or licensing authority;

36 (7) engaged in any unprofessional, unethical, deceptive, or
37 deleterious conduct or practice harmful to the public; the conduct or
38 practice need not have resulted in actual injury to any person. As
39 used in this paragraph, the term "unprofessional conduct" shall
40 include any departure from, or failure to conform to, the minimal
41 standards of acceptable and prevailing practice of an officer as
42 prescribed by the commission. As used in this paragraph the term
43 "deceptive conduct" shall include but not be limited to:

44 (a) a sustained finding that a law enforcement officer filed a
45 false report or submitted a false certification in any criminal,
46 administrative, employment, financial, or insurance matter in the
47 professional or personal life of the officer;

- 1 (b) a sustained finding that the law enforcement officer was
2 untruthful or demonstrated a lack of candor;
- 3 (c) a sustained finding that the law enforcement officer
4 mishandled or destroyed evidence; or
- 5 (d) a sustained finding that a law enforcement officer has
6 engaged in conduct demonstrating discrimination, hatred or bias
7 against individuals or groups based on race, creed, color, national
8 origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender
9 identity or expression, or any other protected characteristic under
10 the “Law Against Discrimination,” P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et
11 seq.);
- 12 (8) been adjudged mentally incompetent by a court of competent
13 jurisdiction, within or outside this State;
- 14 (9) become unable to perform as an officer with reasonable skill
15 and safety to citizens by reason of illness or use of alcohol, drugs,
16 narcotics, chemicals, or any other type of material or as a result of
17 any mental or physical condition;
- 18 (10) been the subject of or had a domestic violence restraining
19 order pursuant to P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-17 et seq.), an extreme
20 risk protective order or a temporary extreme risk protective order
21 pursuant to P.L.2018, c.35 (C.2C:58-20 et seq.) issued against the
22 applicant or officer; or
- 23 (11) been suspended or discharged by the officer's employing
24 law enforcement unit for disciplinary reasons.
- 25 b. If the commission finds, based on its own review or a
26 recommendation of the licensing committee, that any person has
27 engaged in the conduct described in subsection a. of this section,
28 the commission may take any of the following actions:
- 29 (1) suspend any license for a definite period;
30 (2) place limitations or restrictions on a license;
31 (3) revoke a license;
32 (4) condition a penalty, or withhold formal disposition, upon the
33 officer's completing care, counseling, or treatment, as directed by
34 the commission; or
35 (5) place the officer's license on inactive status.
- 36 c. In addition to and in conjunction with the foregoing actions,
37 the commission may make a finding adverse to the applicant or law
38 enforcement officer, but withhold imposition of judgment or it may
39 impose the judgment but suspend enforcement thereof and place the
40 officer on probation, which may be vacated upon noncompliance
41 with reasonable terms as the commission may impose.
- 42 d. In its discretion, the commission may restore and reissue a
43 license issued under this act and, as a condition thereof, may
44 impose any corrective measure prescribed by the commission.
- 45 e. In all situations where a law enforcement officer has been
46 convicted of an offense set forth in subparagraph (a), (b), or (c) of
47 paragraph (13) of subsection a. of section 14 of

- 1 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),
2 the commission shall revoke a law enforcement officer's license.
- 3 f. Any decision to revoke or suspend a license shall be
4 accompanied by a written statement in a form to be prescribed by
5 the commission.
- 6 g. Decisions of the commission authorized under this section
7 shall be final agency decisions subject to appeal to the Superior
8 Court.
- 9 h. The commission shall report all final decisions to revoke or
10 deny licensure issued under this act to the National Decertification
11 Index.
- 12
- 13 19. (New section) a. Except under circumstances set forth in
14 subsection h. of section 14 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
15 the Legislature as this bill) or subsection e. of section 18 of P.L. ,
16 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), in all
17 situations involving the imposition of an adverse license action by
18 the commission as set forth in subsection b. of section 18 of
19 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) or
20 the denial of an initial or renewal license, the law enforcement
21 officer shall, if requested by the officer, be entitled to a hearing in a
22 manner prescribed in this subsection and in regulations as may be
23 promulgated by the commission:
- 24 (1) The licensing committee may hear the matter or refer the
25 matter to a hearing officer for fact finding and a recommended
26 disposition;
- 27 (2) If the matter is referred to a hearing officer, the officer shall
28 conduct a hearing and provide a written report to the licensing
29 committee detailing the facts revealed and providing a
30 recommended disposition; and
- 31 (3) The licensing committee shall review the hearing officer's
32 report, vote on the proposed disposition, and make a
33 recommendation to the full commission, which shall render a
34 decision in writing to the law enforcement officer, or any other
35 party participating in the hearing.
- 36 b. Any ruling of the commission adverse to the law
37 enforcement officer or any party participating in the hearing may be
38 appealed to the Superior Court within 45 days of receipt of the
39 commission's decision on appeal. Absent an appeal to the Superior
40 Court, all findings of the commission shall become final upon the
41 expiration of the appeal deadline. Upon review on appeal to the
42 Superior Court, the commission's decisions shall be upheld unless
43 the court finds the commission's decision was arbitrary, capricious,
44 or unreasonable, or the record was unsupported by substantial
45 credible evidence.
- 46 c. The commission shall promulgate rules and regulations
47 detailing the manner of the hearing and appeal process. The
48 processes shall include, but not be limited to, the manner in which a

1 hearing and appeal are initiated and the manner in which the
2 hearing shall be conducted.

3
4 20. (New section) a. The commission shall, by regulation,
5 require all law enforcement officers, as a condition of continued
6 employment or appointment as an officer, to receive periodic
7 commission-approved continuing officer education training. The
8 training or education shall be mandated and prescribed by the
9 commission. Every law enforcement unit shall provide a reasonable
10 opportunity for its officers to complete training.

11 b. The law enforcement officer shall submit proof of all
12 required training to the chief law enforcement officer of the
13 officer's employing law enforcement unit, who shall in turn, submit
14 the documentation to the commission in a manner to be proscribed
15 by the commission's regulations.

16
17 21. (New section) a. The commission shall, by rule or
18 regulation, establish, prescribe, or modify fees for training or other
19 services provided by the commission pursuant to the provisions of
20 this act. The fees may include, but are not limited to, fees for
21 academy recruits and fees for each academy. Any fees established
22 pursuant to this subsection shall be dedicated to the costs of
23 providing the training or other services provided by the
24 commission, as the case may be.

25 b. The commission may, by rule or regulation, establish,
26 prescribe, or modify fees for application for and issuance of an
27 initial license pursuant to the provisions of this act for applicants or
28 law enforcement officers not employed as full-time sworn members
29 of any State, county, or municipal law enforcement agency or
30 department or division of those governments on the effective date
31 of this act, provided that a fee may not be charged for application
32 for and issuance of initial licenses for law enforcement officers
33 employed as full-time sworn members of any State, county, or
34 municipal law enforcement agency, department, or division of those
35 governments on the effective date of this act, or for application for
36 and issuance of law enforcement license renewals for law
37 enforcement officers employed as full-time sworn members of any
38 State, county, or municipal law enforcement agency, department, or
39 division of those governments on or after the effective date of this
40 act.

41 c. The commission shall be authorized to accept payment of
42 fees established pursuant to this section from an applicant or
43 licensee or on behalf of an applicant or licensee from a law
44 enforcement unit employing or proposing to employ the applicant
45 or officer, from any other governmental entity, or from funds made
46 available by the State for this purpose.

1 22. (New section) There is hereby appropriated from the General
2 Fund to the Department of Law and Public Safety the sum of
3 \$6,000,000 to carry out the purposes of this act for the fiscal period
4 ending June 30, 2023.

5

6 23. The following sections are repealed:
7 Section 5 of P.L.1988, c.176 (C.52:17B-68.1);
8 Section 3 of P.L.1967, c.252 (C.52:17B-71.1); and
9 Sections 1 through 6 of P.L.1968, c.265 (C.52:17B-71.2 through
10 C.52:17B-71.7).

11

12 24. This act shall take effect on the first day of the eighteenth
13 month after enactment, however paragraph (2) of subsection o. of
14 section 8 shall take effect immediately. The Police Training
15 Commission may take such anticipatory actions in advance of that
16 date as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of this act.

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21 Concerns licensing of law enforcement officers; appropriates \$6
22 million.