

SENATE, No. 3943

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 8, 2023

Sponsored by:

Senator NELLIE POU

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman BENJIE E. WIMBERLY

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Allows Attorney General to appoint officer in charge when superseding certain law enforcement agencies.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2023)

1 AN ACT concerning an appointment when the Attorney General has
2 superseded a law enforcement agency.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. a. The Attorney General, upon superseding a law
8 enforcement agency in a city of the first class having a population
9 of less than 200,000 according to the 2020 federal decennial census,
10 may appoint a person who has not previously satisfied the
11 applicable law enforcement officer training requirements
12 established by the Police Training Commission pursuant to
13 P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-66 et seq.) to serve as officer in charge of
14 that law enforcement agency during the period of time during which
15 the law enforcement agency is superseded. A person appointed
16 pursuant to this section shall have previously served as a superior
17 police officer and possess at least 10 years administrative and
18 supervisory police experience.

19 b. Notwithstanding the provision of subsection a. of section 3
20 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-68) or any other law, the Attorney
21 General may establish and administer specific training requirements
22 for the person appointed pursuant to subsection a. of this section
23 that take into account the person's prior training, education,
24 experience and qualifications in light of the requirements of the
25 position.

26 c. The Attorney General shall ensure that the training required
27 pursuant to subsection b. of this section is completed within one
28 year of appointment, provided that the appointee may serve as
29 officer in charge pending completion of the specific training
30 requirements. Upon completion of the training requirements
31 established by the Attorney General pursuant to this section, the
32 appointee shall be deemed eligible to be licensed in accordance
33 with P.L.2022, c.65 (C.52:17B-71a et al.).

34 d. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the
35 Attorney General's authority as chief law enforcement officer of the
36 State.

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38 2. This act shall take effect immediately, shall be retroactive to
39 March 1, 2023, and shall expire upon the termination of the period
40 of time during which the law enforcement agency in a city of the
41 first class having a population of less than 200,000 according to the
42 2020 federal decennial census is superseded by the Attorney
43 General.

STATEMENT

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This bill allows the Attorney General, upon superseding a law enforcement agency, to appoint a person as “officer in charge” during the period of time in which the law enforcement agency is superseded even though the person has not previously satisfied the training requirements established by the Police Training Commission. This bill specifically applies to a law enforcement agency in a city of the first class having a population of less than 200,000 according to the 2020 federal decennial census.

Under the bill, a person appointed as officer in charge is required to have previously served as a superior police officer and possess at least 10 years administrative and supervisory police experience. The bill allows the Attorney General to establish and administer specific training requirements that take into account the person’s prior training, education, experience and qualifications in light of the requirements of the position.

The bill requires the Attorney General to ensure that the training is completed within one year of the person’s appointment, provided that the appointee may serve as officer in charge pending completion of the specific training requirements. Upon completion of the training requirements established by the Attorney General, the appointee shall be deemed eligible to be licensed as a law enforcement officer.