

# ASSEMBLY, No. 1447

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## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 5, 1996

By Assemblyman HOLZAPFEL

1    **AN ACT** concerning police training, amending and supplementing  
2    P.L.1961, c.56 and supplementing chapter 4 of Title 11A of the  
3    New Jersey Statutes.

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

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

10      4. Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S.11:22-6, a probationary  
11    or temporary appointment as a police officer may be made for a total  
12    period not exceeding 1 year for the purpose of enabling a person  
13    seeking permanent appointment to take a police training course as  
14    prescribed in this act, provided, however, that the time period may  
15    exceed 1 year for those persons enrolled prior to the 1-year limit in a  
16    police training course scheduled to end subsequent to the 1-year limit,  
17    and for those persons who, prior to the 1-year limit, have been  
18    scheduled to attend a police training course which commences  
19    subsequent to the 1-year limit. In no case shall any extension granted  
20    for the reasons herein listed exceed 6 months. [No person shall be  
21    permitted to take a police training course unless he holds] Every  
22    person holding such a probationary or temporary appointment shall  
23    take a police training course, and such appointee shall be entitled to a  
24    leave of absence with pay during the period of the police training  
25    course.

26    (cf: P.L.1974, c.186, s.1)

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28      2. (New section) a. A person who does not hold a probationary  
29    or temporary appointment as a police officer, but who is seeking such  
30    an appointment may take a police training course provided that  
31    person:

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

**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.

(2) applies to and is accepted by the commission for admission to  
a police training course.

All costs associated with the police training course shall be paid to the commission by the person who has been permitted to take the course pursuant to the provisions of this section.. The person shall be charged a fee identical to that which the commission charges a governmental employer for the training of an employee holding a probationary or temporary appointment.

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

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14       3. (New section) Upon the request of an appointing authority, the  
15 Commissioner of Personnel shall provide, in lieu of the eligible list  
16 otherwise required under N.J.S.11A:4-4, a list consisting of eligibles  
17 who have successfully completed a police training course pursuant to  
18 the provisions of section 2 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (now pending  
19 before the Legislature as this bill).

In any local governmental unit wherein Title 11A of the New Jersey Statutes is operative, the appointing authority may select and appoint a candidate from the list of eligibles provided by the commissioner pursuant to this section. The governing body of the governmental unit may, at its discretion, reimburse the person it appoints from this list for all or part of the costs of training.

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27       4. This act shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month  
28 following enactment, except that the Commissioner of Personnel and  
29 the Police Training Commission may take such anticipatory  
30 administrative action in advance as shall be necessary for the  
31 implementation of the act.

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## STATEMENT

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36 This bill would permit individuals who are seeking employment as  
37 law enforcement officers to take the statutorily required Police  
38 Training Commission courses before they are hired. Under current  
39 law, only individuals who have already been hired by local  
40 governmental units may be admitted to the commission's police  
41 training courses.

Under the provisions of the bill, individuals who are interested in becoming police officers would be permitted to take police training courses if they (1) meet the statutory qualifications for police officer and (2) apply to and are accepted by the Police Training Commission for admission to a training course. The cost of the training would be

1 paid by the student.

2 The bill also directs the Commissioner of Personnel to prepare, at  
3 the request of a local government unit seeking candidates for police  
4 positions, a list of eligible individuals who have successfully completed  
5 police training. Local government units that are operating under the  
6 provisions of Title 11A of the New Jersey Statutes (Civil Service)  
7 would be permitted to select and appoint candidates from this list.

8 This bill could result in significant savings for municipalities since  
9 they no longer would have to assume all the costs of training their new  
10 police employees. The bill, however, does give local government units  
11 the discretion, to reimburse individuals they have appointed for all or  
12 part of the costs of their training.

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17 Permits persons not holding appointments as police officers to take  
18 police training courses; permits civil service employers to appoint such  
19 persons.