

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3690

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED APRIL 26, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator NICHOLAS P. SCUTARI

District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union)

Senator JOSEPH P. CRYAN

District 20 (Union)

SYNOPSIS

Revises modified basic training program for certain county correctional police officers to be certified as county prosecutor's detectives or investigators or county or municipal police officers.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the Senate on June 3, 2021.

1 AN ACT concerning the modified basic training program for county
2 ¹**[corrections]** correctional police¹ officers and ¹**[amending**
3 **P.L.2019, c.247]** supplementing Title 52 of the Revised
4 Statutes¹.

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

8
9 ¹**[1.** Section 1 of P.L.2019, c.247 (C.52:17B-68.2) is amended
10 to read as follows:

11 1. a. The Police Training Commission in the Division of
12 Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety shall
13 develop a supplemental course to be known as the modified basic
14 training program for county corrections officers. The program shall
15 provide the additional training necessary to allow an eligible county
16 corrections officer to be certified as a county sheriff's officer,
17 detective or investigator in the county prosecutor's office, or county
18 or municipal police officer. The Police Training Commission shall
19 develop the program within 180 days of the effective date of **[this**
20 **act]** P.L.2019, c.247 and shall revise the program within 30 days
21 of the effective date of P.L. , c. (now pending before the
22 Legislature as this bill).

23 b. A county corrections officer is eligible for the modified
24 basic training program if the officer has:

25 (1) previously completed a basic training course administered
26 by the Police Training Commission pursuant to P.L.1961, c.56
27 (C.52:17B-66 et seq.);

28 (2) been designated by the county sheriff as eligible to transition
29 into the position of sheriff's officer or by the chief executive officer
30 of the county or municipality, as appropriate, as eligible to
31 transition into the position of detective or investigator in the county
32 prosecutor's office, or county or municipal police officer based on
33 the officer's law enforcement examination test score and seniority;

34 (3) served in the county correction's officer title for a minimum
35 of **[36]** 12 months in the facility under the jurisdiction of the
36 county sheriff or the chief executive officer of the county,
37 whichever is applicable; and

38 (4) a criminal history record background check of the officer has
39 been conducted by the appointing authority and the officer has not
40 been deemed ineligible to transition to the position of sheriff's
41 officer, detective or investigator in the county prosecutor's office,
42 or county or municipal police officer on the basis of any conviction
43 disclosed by the background check.

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate floor amendments adopted June 3, 2021.

1 c. The modified basic training program shall, at a minimum,
2 provide comprehensive and consistent training in law enforcement
3 practices and concepts. Each course instructor shall be proficient
4 and experienced in law enforcement practices and concepts.

5 d. The modified basic training program shall be offered at an
6 academy approved by the Police Training Commission to provide
7 police training courses pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1961, c.56
8 (C.52:17B-66 et seq.).

9 e. The waiver rule set forth in N.J.A.C.13:1-8.4 authorizing the
10 Police Training Commission to waive all or part of a basic training
11 course shall apply to an eligible county corrections officer taking
12 the modified basic training program developed pursuant to
13 subsection a. of this section.

14 f. A county corrections officer who successfully completes the
15 modified basic training program shall be eligible for a lateral
16 transfer to the position of sheriff's officer, detective or investigator
17 in the county prosecutor's office, or county or municipal police
18 officer in [the] any county or municipality, as applicable, in
19 [which the officer serves] the State. An officer eligible for a lateral
20 transfer shall not be denied a transfer to an available position
21 without cause.

22 g. The Civil Service Commission shall adopt rules and
23 regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
24 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to implement the provisions
25 of this section.

26 (cf: P.L.2019, c.247, s.1)]¹

27
28 ¹1. a. The Police Training Commission shall revise the
29 modified basic training program for county correctional police
30 officers established in section 1 of P.L.2019, c.247 (C.52:17B-68.2)
31 to provide the additional training necessary for an eligible county
32 correctional police officer to be certified as detective or investigator
33 in the county prosecutor's office or a county or municipal police
34 officer.

35 b. The commission shall complete the revisions to the modified
36 basic training program no later than 60 days following the effective
37 date of P.L. , c. (now pending before the Legislature as this
38 bill).

39 c. A county correctional police officer is eligible for the
40 revised modified basic training program established in subsection a.
41 of this section if:

42 (1) the officer served in a county correctional facility that closed
43 in calendar year 2021;

44 (2) the officer served in the county correctional police officer
45 title for a minimum of 12 months in the facility under the
46 jurisdiction of the county sheriff or the chief executive officer of the
47 county, whichever is applicable;

1 (3) the officer previously completed a basic training course
2 administered by the Police Training Commission pursuant to
3 P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-66 et seq.);

4 (4) the officer has been designated by the county sheriff as
5 eligible to transition into the position of sheriff's officer or by the
6 chief executive officer of the county or municipality, as appropriate,
7 as eligible to transition into the position of detective or investigator
8 in the county prosecutor's office or county or municipal police
9 officer; and

10 (5) a criminal history record background check of the officer has
11 been conducted by the appointing authority and the officer has not
12 been deemed ineligible to transition to the position of detective or
13 investigator in the county prosecutor's office or county or
14 municipal police officer on the basis of any conviction disclosed by
15 the background check.

16 d. The waiver rule set forth in N.J.A.C.13:1-8.4 authorizing the
17 Police Training Commission to waive all or part of a basic training
18 course shall apply to an eligible county correctional police officer
19 taking the revised modified basic training pursuant to subsection a.
20 of this section.

21 e. An eligible county correctional police officer who
22 successfully completes the modified basic training established
23 pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2019, c.247 (C.52:17B-68.2) shall be
24 eligible for a transfer to a position as sheriff's officer in any county
25 in the State and an eligible officer who successfully completes the
26 revised modified basic training established pursuant to subsection a.
27 of this section shall be eligible for a transfer or lateral title change,
28 as appropriate, to the position of detective or investigator in the
29 county prosecutor's office or county or municipal police officer in
30 any county or municipality, as applicable, in the State. An officer
31 eligible for a transfer or lateral title change pursuant to the
32 provisions of this section shall not be denied a transfer or title
33 change to an available position without good cause.

34 f. The Civil Service Commission may adopt rules and
35 regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
36 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to implement the provisions
37 of this section.¹

38
39 2. This act shall take effect immediately.