

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017

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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH30198-MS-74 (03/01)

Short Title: Required Training Police Telecommunicators. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Faircloth.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF POLICE
3 TELECOMMUNICATORS.
4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
5 SECTION 1. G.S. 17E-7 is amending by adding a new subsection to read:
6 "§ 17E-7. Required standards.
7 (a) Justice officers, other than those set forth in subsection (c1) of this section, shall not
8 be required to meet any requirements of subsections (b) and (c) of this section as a condition of
9 continued employment, nor shall failure of a justice officer to fulfill such requirements make
10 him ineligible for any promotional examination for which he is otherwise eligible if the officer
11 held an appointment prior to July 1, 1983, and is a sworn law-enforcement officer with power
12 of arrest. The legislature finds, and it is hereby declared to be the policy of this Chapter, that
13 such officers have satisfied such requirements by their experience. It is the intent of the Chapter
14 that all justice officers employed at the entry level after the Commission has adopted the
15 required standards shall meet the requirements of this Chapter. All justice officers who are
16 exempted from the required entry level standards by this subsection are subject to the
17 requirements of subsections (b) and (c) of this section as well as the requirements of
18 G.S. 17E-4(a) in order to retain certification.
19 (b) The Commission shall provide, by regulation, that no person may be appointed as a
20 justice officer at entry level, except on a temporary or probationary basis, unless such person
21 has satisfactorily completed an initial preparatory program of training at a school certified by
22 the Commission or has been exempted from that requirement by the Commission pursuant to
23 this Chapter. Upon separation of a justice officer from a sheriff's department within the
24 temporary or probationary period of appointment, the probationary certification shall be
25 terminated by the Commission. Upon the reappointment to the same department or
26 appointment to another department of an officer who has separated from a department within
27 the probationary period, the officer shall be charged with the amount of time served during his
28 initial appointment and allowed the remainder of the probationary period to complete the basic
29 training requirement. Upon the reappointment to the same department or appointment to
30 another department of an officer who has separated from a department within the probationary
31 period and who has remained out of service for more than one year from the date of separation,
32 the officer shall be allowed another probationary period to complete such training as the
33 Commission shall require by rule for an officer returning to service.
34 (c) In addition to the requirements of subsection (b) of this section, the Commission, by
35 rules and regulations, may fix other qualifications for the employment and retention of justice
36 officers including minimum age, education, physical and mental standards, citizenship, good



1 moral character, experience, and such other matters as relate to the competence and reliability
2 of persons to assume and discharge the responsibilities of the office, and the Commission shall
3 prescribe the means for presenting evidence of fulfillment of these requirements.

4 Where minimum educational standards are not met, yet the individual shows potential and a
5 willingness to achieve the standards by extra study, they may be waived by the Commission for
6 the reasonable amount of time it will take to achieve the standards required. Upon petition from
7 a sheriff, the Commission may grant a waiver of any provisions of this section (17E-7) for any
8 justice officer serving that sheriff.

9 (c1) Any justice officer appointed as a telecommunicator at the entry level after March 1,
10 1998, shall meet all requirements of this Chapter. Any person employed in the capacity of a
11 telecommunicator as defined by the Commission on or before March 1, 1998, shall not be
12 required to meet any entry-level requirements as a condition of continued employment but shall
13 be reported to the Commission for certification. All justice officers who are exempted from the
14 required entry-level standards by this subsection are subject to the requirements of subsections
15 (b) and (c) of this section as well as the requirements of G.S. 17E-4(a) in order to retain
16 certification.

17 (c2) Effective July 1, 2019, any person employed as a telecommunicator by a municipal
18 police agency shall meet all the requirements of this Chapter. Entry-level telecommunicators
19 shall successfully complete, as determined by the agency, the entry-level telecommunicator
20 course of instruction provided either pursuant to this Chapter or by the Association of Public
21 Safety Communications Officials Institute.

22 (d) The Commission may issue a certificate evidencing satisfaction of the requirements
23 of subsections (b), (c), and (c1) of this section to any applicant who presents such evidence as
24 may be required by its rules and regulations of satisfactory completion of a program or course
25 of instruction in another jurisdiction."

26 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.