A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO MODIFY VARIOUS POWERS OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND SHERIFFS’
EDUCATION AND TRAINING STANDARDS COMMISSIONS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 17C-6(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) In addition to powers conferred upon the Commission elsewhere in this Article, the
Commission shall have the following powers, which shall be enforceable through its rules and
regulations, certification procedures, or the provisions of G.S. 17C-10:

…

(6) Establish minimum standards and levels of education and experience for all
criminal justice instructors, including instructors with probationary or limited teaching privileges, qualified assistants, in-service training coordinators, executive officers, and school directors, who participate in programs or courses of instruction that are required by this Article.

(7) Certify and recertify, suspend, revoke, or deny, pursuant to the standards that it has established for the purpose, criminal justice instructors, including instructors with probationary or limited teaching privileges, qualified assistants, in-service training coordinators, executive officers, and school directors, who participate in programs or courses of instruction that are required by this Article or are required and approved by their respective criminal justice agency to include those certified under Chapter 17E or an educational institution accredited by the Commission.

(8) Investigate and make such evaluations as may be necessary to determine if
criminal justice agencies, schools, and individuals— instructors, including instructors with probationary or limited teaching privileges, qualified assistants, in-service training coordinators, executive officers, and school directors, are complying with the provisions of this Article.

..."

SECTION 2. G.S. 17E-4(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) The Commission shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities, which are enforceable through its rules and regulations, certification procedures, or the provisions of G.S. 17E-8 and G.S. 17E-9:

(1) Promulgate rules and regulations for the administration of this Chapter, which
rules may require (i) the submission by any agency of information with respect
to the employment, education, and training of its justice officers, and (ii) the
submission by any training school of information with respect to its programs
that are required by this Chapter.

…

(3) Certify, recertify, suspend, revoke, or deny, pursuant to the standards that it
may establish for the purpose, persons as qualified under the provisions of this
Chapter who may be employed at entry level as officers.

(4) Establish minimum standards for the certification of training schools and
programs or courses of instruction that are required by this Chapter.

(5) Certify, recertify, suspend, revoke, or deny, pursuant to the standards that it
has established for the purpose, training schools and programs or courses of
instruction that are required by this Chapter.

(6) Establish standards and levels of education or equivalent experience for
teachers—criminal justice school instructors, including instructors with
probationary or limited teaching privileges, qualified assistants, in-service
training coordinators, executive officers, and school directors, who participate
in programs or courses of instruction that are required by this Chapter.

(7) Certify, recertify, suspend, revoke, or deny, pursuant to the standards that it
has established for the purpose, teachers—criminal justice school instructors,
including instructors with probationary or limited teaching privileges,
qualified assistants, in-service training coordinators, executive officers, and
school directors, who participate in programs or courses of instruction that are
required by this Chapter or are required and approved by the
instructor's agency, including programs or courses of instruction certified
under Chapter 17C of the General Statutes or offered by an educational
institution accredited by the Commission.

(8) Investigate and make such evaluations as may be necessary to determine if
agencies—agencies, criminal justice school instructors, including instructors
with probationary or limited teaching privileges, qualified assistants,
in-service training coordinators, executive officers, and school directors, are
complying with the provision[s] of this Chapter.

(9) Adopt and amend bylaws, consistent with law, for its internal management
and control.

(10) Enter into contracts incident to the administration of its authority pursuant to
this Chapter.

…

The Commission may certify, and no additional certification shall be required from it, programs,
courses and teachers certified by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training
Standards Commission. Where the Commission determines that a program, course, instructor or
teacher is required for an area which is unique to the office of sheriff, the Commission may certify
such program, course, instructor, or teacher under such standards and procedures as it may
establish."

SECTION 3. G.S. 17E-5 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:
"(c) Any papers, documents, or other records which become the property of the
Commission that are placed in the criminal justice officer's personnel file maintained by the
Commission shall be subject to the same disclosure requirements set forth in Chapters 126, 153A,
and 160A of the General Statutes regarding the privacy of personnel records."

SECTION 4. This act is effective when it becomes law.