# GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2017

Η

1

#### HOUSE BILL 476

Short Title:	Required Training Police Telecommunicators.	(Public)
Sponsors:	Representatives Faircloth, Burr, Davis, and McNeill (Primary Sponsors). For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly we	
Referred to:	State and Local Government II	

March 27, 2017

#### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

# 2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF POLICE 3 TELECOMMUNICATORS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
SECTION 1. G.S. 17E-7 is amending

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 17E-7 is amending by adding a new subsection to read:

### 6 "§ 17E-7. Required standards.

7 Justice officers, other than those set forth in subsection (c1) of this section, shall not (a) 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 held an appointment prior to July 1, 1983, and is a sworn law-enforcement officer with power 11 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 that all justice officers employed at the entry level after the Commission has adopted the 14 required standards shall meet the requirements of this Chapter. All justice officers who are 15 exempted from the required entry level standards by this subsection are subject to the 16 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 The Commission shall provide, by regulation, that no person may be appointed as a (b) 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 the Commission or has been exempted from that requirement by the Commission pursuant to 22 this Chapter. Upon separation of a justice officer from a sheriff's department within the 23 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 initial appointment and allowed the remainder of the probationary period to complete the basic 28 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



1

### **General Assembly Of North Carolina**

officers including minimum age, education, physical and mental standards, citizenship, good moral character, experience, and such other matters as relate to the competence and reliability of persons to assume and discharge the responsibilities of the office, and the Commission shall prescribe the means for presenting evidence of fulfillment of these requirements.

5 Where minimum educational standards are not met, yet the individual shows potential and a 6 willingness to achieve the standards by extra study, they may be waived by the Commission for 7 the reasonable amount of time it will take to achieve the standards required. Upon petition from 8 a sheriff, the Commission may grant a waiver of any provisions of this section (17E-7) for any 9 justice officer serving that sheriff.

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

18 (c2) Effective July 1, 2019, any person employed as a telecommunicator by a municipal 19 police agency shall meet all the requirements of this Chapter. Entry-level telecommunicators 20 shall successfully complete, as determined by the agency, the entry-level telecommunicator 21 course of instruction provided either pursuant to this Chapter or by the Association of Public 22 Safety Communications Officials Institute.

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

27

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