HLS 17RS-1092 REENGROSSED

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 473

1

BY REPRESENTATIVES GAINES, BAGNERIS, GARY CARTER, JIMMY HARRIS, JACKSON, AND JAMES

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

LAW ENFORCEMENT: Provides relative to P.O.S.T. certification of peace officers

AN ACT

2	To amend and reenact R.S. 40:2405(H)(2)(a), (I)(2), and (J), relative to peace officers; to
3	provide relative to peace officer certification; to provide for annual training
4	requirements for peace officers to maintain P.O.S.T. certification; to provide relative
5	to impediments to P.O.S.T. certification; to provide for revocation of P.O.S.T.
6	certification; to provide for grounds for revocation; to provide for revocation
7	hearings; and to provide for related matters.
8	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
9	Section 1. R.S. 40:2405(H)(2)(a), (I)(2), and (J) are hereby amended and reenacted
10	to read as follows:
11	§2405. Peace officer training requirements; reimbursement by peace officer
12	* * *
13	H.
14	* * *
15	(2)(a) A person who is not serving as a peace officer, but who retains the
16	qualifications to do so, as provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, may resume
17	service as a qualified peace officer during the five-year period without the
18	requirement of any further training prior to such resumption provided the officer
19	successfully requalifies with his or her firearm in accordance with the provisions of

Page 1 of 4

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1	Paragraph (A)(2) of this Section and completes additional annual training as required
2	and prescribed by the council.
3	* * *
4	I. Any person who is enrolled in a law enforcement curriculum and who
5	successfully completes a certified Police Officer Standards and Training course or
6	academy subsequent to July 1, 2005, and does not begin employment as a peace
7	officer upon completion of the course or academy shall maintain their P.O.S.T.
8	qualification status for a period of two years provided they meet the following
9	requirements:
10	* * *
11	(2) Satisfactorily fulfill all requirements for annual basic firearms training
12	and any additional training as required and prescribed by the council.
13	J.(1) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the P.O.S.T.
14	certification of any qualified peace officer, whether employed full-time, part-time,
15	or reserve, shall be immediately revoked upon a conviction of malfeasance in office.
16	the occurrence of any of the following conditions:
17	(a) A conviction of malfeasance in office.
18	(b) A conviction of an offense which results in the individual peace officer's
19	restriction of his constitutional right to bear arms.
20	(2) The Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training may conduct a
21	revocation hearing to determine whether the P.O.S.T. certification of any qualified
22	peace officer, whether employed full-time, part-time, or reserve, shall be revoked if
23	any of the following conditions occur:
24	(a) The officer has been involuntarily terminated by his employing law
25	enforcement agency for disciplinary reasons involving criminal misconduct or civil
26	rights violations.
27	(b) The officer has been convicted of a misdemeanor involving the crime of
28	domestic abuse battery as provided in R.S. 14:35.3 or a felony in any court of the
29	United States.

1	(c) The officer has failed to complete additional training as required and
2	prescribed by the council.
3	(d) The officer voluntarily surrenders certification.
4	(e) A judicial disposition in a criminal case results in revocation of
5	certification.
6	(3) Any hearings conducted by the council or appeal by an officer whose
7	certification has been revoked shall be conducted according to rules promulgated by
8	the council.
9	(4) The council shall promulgate rules in accordance with the Administrative
10	Procedure Act no later than January 1, 2018, subject to the oversight of the House
11	Committee on Judiciary and the Senate Committee on Judiciary B, to provide
12	procedures governing revocation hearings.
13	(5) Any peace officer whose certification has been denied or revoked by the
14	council may file an appeal under the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act
15	provided in R.S. 49:964.
16	Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
17	signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
18	by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
19	vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
20	effective on the day following such approval.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 473 Reengrossed

2017 Regular Session

Gaines

Abstract: Provides for annual training requirements to maintain P.O.S.T. certification and provides grounds and procedures for revocation of P.O.S.T. certification for peace officers.

<u>Present law</u> establishes the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training and authorizes the council to develop curriculum requirements for training of peace officers and accredit law enforcement training centers. Present law further provides for the training requirements for peace officers.

Page 3 of 4

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REENGROSSED HB NO. 473

<u>Proposed law</u> requires annual training required by the council to maintain P.O.S.T. certification.

<u>Present law</u> provides for the removal of P.O.S.T. certification of any full-time, part-time, or reserve peace officer upon a conviction of malfeasance in office.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and adds the conviction of any offense that results in the restriction of a peace officer's right to bear arms as grounds for revocation of P.O.S.T. certification.

<u>Proposed law</u> allows the council to conduct a revocation hearing to revoke P.O.S.T. certification when any of the following occur:

- (1) The officer has been involuntarily terminated by a law enforcement agency for disciplinary reasons involving criminal misconduct or civil rights violations.
- (2) The officer has been convicted of a misdemeanor involving the crime of domestic abuse battery or a felony.
- (3) The officer has failed to complete additional training requirements as required and prescribed by the council.
- (4) The officer voluntarily surrenders his P.O.S.T. certification.
- (5) A judicial disposition in a criminal case results in revocation of certification.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the council to promulgate rules governing revocation hearings in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 40:2405(H)(2)(a), (I)(2), and (J))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Judiciary</u> to the <u>original</u> bill:

- 1. Add a conviction of a misdemeanor involving domestic abuse battery as grounds for potential P.O.S.T. revocation.
- 2. Require the P.O.S.T. Council to promulgate administrative rules regarding revocation hearings no later than Jan. 1, 2018.
- 3. Allow appeals of P.O.S.T. Council revocation rulings in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

- 1. Change a ground for potential revocation of a peace officer's P.O.S.T. certification <u>from</u> being discharged by a law enforcement agency for disciplinary reasons <u>to</u> being involuntarily terminated by a law enforcement agency for disciplinary reasons involving criminal misconduct or civil rights violations.
- 2. Make technical amendments.