

SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3943

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 12, 2023

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3943.

As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 3943 allows the Attorney General, upon superseding a law enforcement agency, to appoint a person as “officer in charge” during the period of time in which the law enforcement agency is superseded even though the person has not previously satisfied the training requirements established by the Police Training Commission. This bill specifically applies to a law enforcement agency in a city of the first class having a population of less than 200,000 according to the 2020 federal decennial census.

Under the bill, a person appointed as officer in charge is required to have previously served as a superior police officer and possess at least 10 years administrative and supervisory police experience. The bill allows the Attorney General to establish and administer specific training requirements that take into account the person’s prior training, education, experience and qualifications in light of the requirements of the position.

The bill requires the Attorney General to ensure that the training is completed within one year of the person’s appointment, provided that the appointee may serve as officer in charge pending completion of the specific training requirements. Upon completion of the training requirements established by the Attorney General, the appointee shall be deemed eligible to be licensed as a law enforcement officer.