

ASSEMBLY, No. 220

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

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SYNOPSIS

Requires training for constables.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning constables and amending N.J.S.40A:9-120,
2 P.L.1961, c.56 and supplementing chapter 9 of Title 40A of the
3 Revised Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7
8 1. N.J.S.40A:9-120 is amended to read as follows:

9 40A:9-120. a. The governing body of any municipality, by
10 resolution, may appoint not less than **【2 nor】** two or more than 50
11 constables. To be eligible the persons to be appointed constables shall
12 be residents and qualified voters of the municipality for at least **【3】**
13 three years prior to their appointment. **【Constables】** Provided they
14 meet the training requirements of subsection b. of this section,
15 constables may exercise their functions and perform their duties
16 anywhere in the county wherein the appointing municipality is located.

17 b. Within six months of appointment, a constable shall complete a
18 training course conducted by an approved school as defined in section
19 2 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-67) which has elected to provide
20 training to constables. The training shall include an overview of Title
21 39 motor vehicle offenses; traffic detail, spectator control, and similar
22 duties; and other appropriate professional development.
23 (cf: N.J.S.40A:9-120)
24

25 2. Section 6 of P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-71) is amended to read
26 as follows:

27 6. The commission is vested with the power, responsibility, and
28 duty:

29 a. To prescribe standards for the approval and continuation of
30 approval of schools at which police training courses authorized by this
31 act and in-service police training courses shall be conducted, including
32 but not limited to presently existing regional, county, municipal, and
33 police chief association police training schools or at which basic
34 training courses and in-service training courses shall be conducted for
35 State and county juvenile and adult corrections officers **【and】** ,
36 juvenile detention officers, and constables;

37 b. To approve and issue certificates of approval to **【such】** the
38 schools, to inspect 【such】 the schools from time to time, and to revoke
39 any approval or certificate issued to 【such】 the schools;

40 c. To prescribe the curriculum, the minimum courses of study,
41 attendance requirements, equipment and facilities, and standards of
42 operation for **【such】** the schools. Courses of study in crime prevention
43 may be recommended to the Police Training Commission by the
44 Crime Prevention Advisory Committee, established by section 2 of

**EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets 【thus】 in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

- 1 P.L.1985, c.1 (C.52:17B-77.1). The Police Training Commission may
2 prescribe psychological and psychiatric examinations for police
3 recruits while in **【such】** the schools;
- 4 d. To prescribe minimum qualifications for instructors at **【such】**
5 the schools and to certify, as qualified, instructors for approved police
6 training schools and to issue appropriate certificates to **【such】** the
7 instructors;
- 8 e. To certify police officers, corrections officers, juvenile
9 corrections officers **【and】**, juvenile detention officers, and constables
10 who have satisfactorily completed training programs and to issue
11 appropriate certificates to **【such】** the police officers, corrections
12 officers, juvenile corrections officers **【and】**, juvenile detention
13 officers, and constables;
- 14 f. To advise and consent in the appointment of an administrator
15 of police services by the Attorney General pursuant to section 8 of
16 P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-73);
- 17 g. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1985, c.491.)
- 18 h. To make **【such】** the rules and regulations as may be
19 reasonably necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purposes and
20 objectives of this act;
- 21 i. To make a continuous study of police training methods and
22 training methods for corrections officers, juvenile corrections officers,
23 and juvenile detention officers and to consult and accept the
24 cooperation of any recognized federal or State law enforcement
25 agency or educational institution;
- 26 j. To consult and cooperate with universities, colleges, and
27 institutes in the State for the development of specialized courses of
28 study for police officers in police science and police administration;
- 29 k. To consult and cooperate with other departments and agencies
30 of the State concerned with police training or the training of
31 corrections officers, juvenile corrections officers, and juvenile
32 detention officers;
- 33 l. To participate in unified programs and projects relating to
34 police training and the training of corrections officers, juvenile
35 corrections officers, and juvenile detention officers sponsored by any
36 federal, State, or other public or private agency;
- 37 m. To perform **【such】** other acts as may be necessary or
38 appropriate to carry out its functions and duties as set forth in this act;
- 39 n. To extend the time limit for satisfactory completion of police
40 training programs or programs for the training of corrections officers,
41 juvenile corrections officers, and juvenile detention officers upon a
42 finding that health, extraordinary workload, or other factors have,
43 singly or in combination, effected a delay in the satisfactory
44 completion of **【such】** the training program;
- 45 o. To furnish approved schools, for inclusion in their regular
46 police training courses and curriculum, with information concerning

1 the advisability of high speed chases, the risk caused thereby, and the
2 benefits resulting therefrom;

3 p. To review and approve new standards and course curricula
4 developed by the Department of Corrections for both basic and in-
5 service training of State and county corrections officers and juvenile
6 detention officers. These courses for the State corrections officers and
7 juvenile detention officers shall be centrally provided at the
8 Corrections Officers' Training Academy of the Department of
9 Corrections. Courses for the county corrections officers and juvenile
10 detention officers shall also be centrally provided at the Corrections
11 Officers' Training Academy unless an off-grounds training program is
12 established by the county. A county may elect to establish and conduct
13 a basic training program for corrections officers and juvenile detention
14 officers seeking permanent appointment in that county. The
15 Corrections Officers' Training Academy shall develop the curriculum
16 of the basic training program to be conducted by a county; and

17 q. To administer and distribute the monies in the Law
18 Enforcement Officers Training and Equipment Fund established by
19 section 9 of P.L.1996, c.115 (C.2C:43-3.3) and make **[such]** rules and
20 regulations for the administration and distribution of the monies as
21 may be necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purpose for which
22 the fund was established.

23 (cf: P.L.1996, c.115, s.6)

24
25 3. (New section) A constable who was appointed prior to the
26 effective date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this
27 bill) shall complete the training required pursuant to the provisions
28 of N.J.S.40A:9-120 within one year of the effective date of
29 P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

30
31 4. This act shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month
32 after enactment.

33 34 35 STATEMENT

36
37 This bill requires constables to complete, within six months of
38 appointment, a training course conducted by a police training
39 school approved by the Police Training Commission which has
40 elected to provide training to constables. The training is to include
41 an overview of Title 39 motor vehicle offenses; traffic detail,
42 spectator control, and similar duties; and other appropriate
43 professional development.

44 The bill further provides that a constable who was appointed
45 prior to the bill's effective date is required to complete the required
46 training within one year of the bill's effective date.

1 The bill also authorizes the Police Training Commission to
2 prescribe standards for the approval of schools that train constables
3 and a curriculum, to certify constables who have satisfactorily
4 completed training programs, and to issue appropriate certificates to
5 them.