

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 1124

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S.P. 458

In Senate, March 9, 2023

### An Act Regarding Certification Credentials for the Office of Sheriff

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Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LAWRENCE of York.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §371-B, sub-§3, ¶D**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 202, §1, is  
3 further amended to read:

4 D. The candidate submits written certification from the Maine Criminal Justice  
5 Academy that the candidate:

6 (1) Is currently certified as a law enforcement officer and has met the basic law  
7 enforcement training standards under Title 25, section 2804-C; ~~or~~

8 (3) Was previously certified as a law enforcement officer and agrees to meet the  
9 basic law enforcement training standards under Title 25, section 2804-C within one  
10 year of taking office; ~~and~~ or

11 (4) Is currently enrolled in a course of study providing preservice law enforcement  
12 training under Title 25, section 2804-B and meets the basic law enforcement  
13 training standards under Title 25, section 2804-C within one year of taking office;  
14 and

15 **Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §371-B, sub-§3-A**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 202, §2, is  
16 amended to read:

17 **3-A. Ongoing training.** A person newly taking office as sheriff shall enroll in a jail  
18 administration certification program administered by the Commissioner of Corrections  
19 under Title 34-A, section 1208, subsection 8 and obtain certification from the program  
20 within 6 months of taking office. A person appointed to the office of sheriff shall  
21 continually meet the in-service law enforcement training standards under Title 25, section  
22 2804-E and any other statutory requirements of preservice, basic or in-service law  
23 enforcement training required for certification or continued certification as a law  
24 enforcement officer.

25 **Sec. 3. 34-A MRSA §1208, sub-§8** is enacted to read:

26 **8. Jail administration certification program.** The commissioner shall administer a  
27 jail administration certification program for a sheriff under Title 30-A, section 371-B,  
28 subsection 3, paragraph D, subparagraph (4) and other jail administration personnel based  
29 upon the standards under this section and other jail administration practices and procedures  
30 the commissioner determines appropriate. The commissioner shall adopt rules to carry out  
31 the purposes of this subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine  
32 technical rules under Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

33 **SUMMARY**

34 This bill allows a person to be a candidate for sheriff who is not and has not been  
35 certified as a law enforcement officer as long as the person is enrolled in the Department  
36 of Public Safety's preservice law enforcement training and meets all required in-service  
37 law enforcement training standards within one year of taking office. This bill also requires  
38 that a new sheriff under this provision enroll in a jail administration certification program  
39 administered by the Commissioner of Corrections and obtain certification from the  
40 program within 6 months of taking office.