

SB 41 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Gorsek

Senate Committee On Education

Action Date: 02/22/21

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Dembrow, Gelser, Gorsek, Robinson, Thomsen

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/3, 2/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies definition of parole and probation officer to include certified full-time officers who are employed by the Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Expiration of public safety certification
- Redundancy of certification requirements for returning employees
- Comparison with certification expiration in other professional fields
- Broader impact on public safety professionals certified by DPSST

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) issues certifications for public safety professions such as police officer, certified reserve officer, corrections officer, parole and probation officer, fire service professional, telecommunicator, and emergency medical dispatcher. Under current law, if a person who holds one of these certifications is not directly working in the profession for which they are certified, that person's certification will lapse after three months and expire after five years.

According to the State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision, a person certified by DPSST who is hired by the Board is subject to this lapse in certification, which may deter experienced public safety professionals from seeking employment with the Board.

Senate Bill 41 A modifies the definition of parole and probation officer to include certified full-time officers who are employed by the Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision.