

2022 -- H 7705 SUBSTITUTE A

LC004878/SUB A

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

RELATING TO CRIMINAL OFFENSES -- WEAPONS

Introduced By: Representatives Noret, Hull, Craven, Serpa, Vella-Wilkinson, Solomon, Cardillo, and Shanley

Date Introduced: March 02, 2022

Referred To: House Judiciary

(Dept. of Corrections)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Sections 11-47-17 and 11-47-17.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 11-47
2 entitled "Weapons" are hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **11-47-17. Qualifications required of law enforcement officers appointed after June**
4 **17, 1959.**

5 Except as provided in § 11-47-15.3, all law enforcement officers of this state and its
6 political subdivisions whose permanent appointment shall take place after June 17, 1959, will be
7 required to qualify with the pistol or revolver with which they are armed prior to their permanent
8 appointment, that qualification to be the same as that required in § 11-47-15. Town constables or
9 police constables, special officers, and all law enforcement officers, who by law are authorized to
10 carry side arms and whose appointments are made on a recurring basis, will be required to qualify
11 not later than one year following the date of enactment of this section and their commissions or
12 warrants will be plainly marked or stamped "QUALIFIED WITH PISTOL OR REVOLVER" and
13 will be signed and dated by the certifying authority attesting to that fact. The failure of any law
14 enforcement officer to qualify under the provisions of this section revokes his or her privilege of
15 carrying a pistol or revolver, whether concealed or not, on or about his or her person. All law
16 enforcement officers of this state and its political subdivisions will repeat this qualification at
17 periods of not more than one year, ~~except for correctional officers who must repeat this qualification~~
18 ~~every two (2) years.~~

1 **11-47-17.1. Mandatory or discretionary nature of § 11-47-15.1 requirements --**

2 **Qualification reports to be filed.**

3 (a) All law enforcement officers of this state and its political subdivisions, whose
4 permanent appointment shall take place later than June 6, 1970, shall be required to qualify with
5 the pistol or revolver with which they are armed prior to their permanent appointment, that
6 qualification to be as required in §§ 11-47-15.1 and 11-47-15.3. All permanent appointed law
7 enforcement officers of this state and its political subdivisions who are required to qualify under §
8 11-47-17 may, at the discretion of the officer, qualify under either § 11-47-15, 11-47-15.1 or 11-
9 47-15.3. The failure of any law enforcement officer to qualify under the provisions of this section
10 revokes his or her privilege of carrying a pistol or revolver, whether concealed or not, on or about
11 his or her person. Qualification under this section will be required at periods of not more than one
12 year, ~~except for correctional officers who must repeat this qualification every two (2) years.~~

13 (b) Copies of all of the qualification reports shall be filed with the office of the attorney
14 general.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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- 1 This act would require correctional officers to qualify annually with the pistol or revolver
- 2 which they are armed rather than the previous requirement of biennial qualification.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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