

2025 -- S 0849

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

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A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- GENERAL POWERS

Introduced By: Senators DiPalma, Ciccone, Gu, Gallo, Tikoian, and Lawson

Date Introduced: March 19, 2025

Referred To: Senate Housing & Municipal Government

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 45-2 of the General Laws entitled "General Powers" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **45-2-70. Reimbursement of public safety training expenses.**

4 (a) Any law enforcement agency, fire department, or emergency medical services
5 organization within the state that hires a public safety employee (including law enforcement
6 officers, firefighters, or emergency medical personnel) from another municipality within the state
7 shall, upon hiring such personnel, reimburse the original employing municipality for the cost of
8 training and equipping the employee, provided these costs were incurred within three (3) years of
9 the employee's hire.

10 (b) Reimbursable expenses shall include, but are not limited to:

11 (1) Costs for basic and specialized training programs;

12 (2) Uniforms, personal protective equipment, and other non-reusable items;

13 (3) Equipment and materials directly provided during the training period; and

14 (4) A prorated portion of the base salary and benefits paid during the training academy
15 period.

16 (c) The reimbursing agency shall notify the original employing municipality within ten
17 (10) days of the employee's hire. The original employer shall provide an itemized statement of
18 reimbursable costs within thirty (30) days of notification. Payment must be made within one
19 hundred twenty (120) days of receipt of the itemized claim.

1 (d) Reimbursement percentages are determined based on the time elapsed since the
2 completion of training:

3 (1) One hundred percent (100%) reimbursement for hires made within one year of training
4 academy completion;

5 (2) Seventy-five percent (75%) reimbursement for hires between one and two (2) years
6 after training academy completion;

7 (3) Fifty percent (50%) reimbursement for hires between two (2) and three (3) years after
8 training academy completion.

9 (e) This section supersedes any conflicting municipal policies, resolutions, or ordinances.

10 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 establish a reimbursement system for a municipalities cost of training public
- 2 safety personnel when they are hired by a different municipality or public safety agency within
- 3 Rhode Island within three (3) years of receiving the public safety training.
- 4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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