



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

SB3354

Introduced 2/7/2024, by Sen. Linda Holmes

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

55 ILCS 5/3-6008.5 new

55 ILCS 5/3-7008

55 ILCS 5/3-8010

from Ch. 34, par. 3-7008

from Ch. 34, par. 3-8010

Amends the Counties Code. Provides that a deputy sheriff applicant who is a veteran and who was discharged honorably or generally under honorable conditions no later than 6 months before applying may request examination to occur before the next scheduled examination date and, if requested, may be examined as soon as possible prior to the next examination date following receipt of the application. Provides that, once the applicant passes the examination and all other requirements to be on an eligibility list, the applicant shall be immediately placed on the eligibility list. Provides that nothing in the provisions waives eligibility for the applicant to receive military preference points during the application process or employment.

LRB103 38395 AWJ 68530 b

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Counties Code is amended by changing
5 Sections 3-7008 and 3-8010 and by adding Section 3-6008.5 as
6 follows:

7 (55 ILCS 5/3-6008.5 new)

8 Sec. 3-6008.5. Veteran testing. An applicant who is a
9 veteran, as that term is defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(2), who was
10 discharged honorably or generally under honorable conditions
11 no later than 6 months before applying may request examination
12 to occur before the next scheduled examination date and, if
13 requested, may be examined as soon as possible prior to the
14 next examination date following receipt of the application.
15 Once the applicant passes the examination and all other
16 requirements to be on an eligibility list, the applicant shall
17 be immediately placed on the eligibility list. Nothing in this
18 Section waives eligibility for the applicant to receive
19 military preference points during the application process or
20 employment.

21 (55 ILCS 5/3-7008) (from Ch. 34, par. 3-7008)

22 Sec. 3-7008. Appointments. The appointment of deputy

1 sheriffs in the Police Department, full-time deputy sheriffs
2 not employed as county police officers or county corrections
3 officers and of employees in the Department of Corrections
4 shall be made from those applicants who have been certified by
5 the Board as being qualified for appointment. Certification
6 for appointment in one department shall not constitute
7 certification for appointment in another department.
8 Certification may be made at any point prior to appointment
9 and may be made in conjunction with the Sheriff's application
10 process. All persons so appointed shall, at the time of their
11 appointment, be not less than 21 years of age, or 20 years of
12 age and have successfully completed 2 years of law enforcement
13 studies at an accredited college or university. Any person
14 appointed subsequent to successful completion of 2 years of
15 such law enforcement studies shall not have power of arrest,
16 nor shall he or she be permitted to carry firearms, until he or
17 she reaches 21 years of age. Any person appointed shall be a
18 citizen of the United States, an individual who is legally
19 authorized to work in the United States under federal law and
20 is authorized under federal law to obtain, carry, or purchase
21 or otherwise possess a firearm, or an individual against whom
22 immigration action has been deferred by the U.S. Citizenship
23 and Immigration Services under the federal Deferred Action for
24 Childhood Arrivals (DACA) process and who is authorized under
25 federal law to obtain, carry, or purchase or otherwise possess
26 a firearm. In addition, all persons so appointed shall be not

1 more than the maximum age limit fixed by the Board from time to
2 time, be of sound mind and body, be of good moral character,
3 have not been convicted of a crime which the Board considers to
4 be detrimental to the applicant's ability to carry out his or
5 her duties, possess such prerequisites of training, education
6 and experience as the Board may from time to time prescribe,
7 and shall be required to pass successfully mental, physical,
8 psychiatric and other tests and examinations as may be
9 prescribed by the Board. Preference shall be given in such
10 appointments to persons who have honorably served in the
11 military or naval services of the United States. All
12 appointees shall serve a probationary period of 12 months and
13 during that period may be discharged at the will of the
14 Sheriff. However, civil service employees of the house of
15 correction who have certified status at the time of the
16 transfer of the house of correction to the County Department
17 of Corrections are not subject to this probationary period,
18 and they shall retain their job titles, such tenure privileges
19 as are now enjoyed and any subsequent title changes shall not
20 cause reduction in rank or elimination of positions.

21 An applicant who is a veteran, as that term is defined in
22 38 U.S.C. 101(2), who was discharged honorably or generally
23 under honorable conditions no later than 6 months before
24 applying may request examination to occur before the next
25 scheduled examination date and, if requested, may be examined
26 as soon as possible prior to the next examination date

1 following receipt of the application. Once the applicant
2 passes the examination and all other requirements to be on an
3 eligibility list, the applicant shall be immediately placed on
4 the eligibility list. Nothing in this paragraph waives
5 eligibility for the applicant to receive military preference
6 points during the application process or employment.

7 (Source: P.A. 103-357, eff. 1-1-24.)

8 (55 ILCS 5/3-8010) (from Ch. 34, par. 3-8010)

9 Sec. 3-8010. Certification of applicants. The appointment
10 of all personnel subject to the jurisdiction of the Merit
11 Commission shall be made by the sheriff from those applicants
12 who have been certified by the Commission as being qualified
13 for appointment. A Commission may, by its rules and
14 regulations, set forth the minimum requirements for
15 appointment to any position. In addition, the Commission's
16 review of any application may include examinations,
17 investigations or any other method consistent with recognized
18 merit principles, which in the judgment of the Commission is
19 reasonable and practical for any particular classification.
20 Different examining procedures may be set for the examinations
21 in different classifications but all examinations in the same
22 classification shall be uniform. However, the Merit Commission
23 may by regulation provide that applicants who have served with
24 another sheriff's office, a police department, or any other
25 law enforcement agency, or who are graduate law enforcement

1 interns as defined in the Law Enforcement Intern Training Act,
2 may be exempt from one or more of the minimum requirements for
3 appointment. Preference may be given in such appointments to
4 persons who have honorably served in the military or naval
5 services of the United States.

6 An applicant who is a veteran, as that term is defined in
7 38 U.S.C. 101(2), who was discharged honorably or generally
8 under honorable conditions no later than 6 months before
9 applying may request examination to occur before the next
10 scheduled examination date and, if requested, may be examined
11 as soon as possible prior to the next examination date
12 following receipt of the application. Once the applicant
13 passes the examination and all other requirements to be on an
14 eligibility list, the applicant shall be immediately placed on
15 the eligibility list. Nothing in this paragraph waives
16 eligibility for the applicant to receive military preference
17 points during the application process or employment.

18 The sheriff shall make appointments from those persons
19 certified by the Commission as qualified for appointment. If
20 the sheriff rejects any person so certified, the sheriff shall
21 notify the Commission in writing of such rejection.

22 The rules and regulations of a Commission shall provide
23 that all initial appointees shall serve a probationary period
24 of 12 months during which time they may be discharged at the
25 will of the sheriff.

26 (Source: P.A. 92-83, eff. 7-12-01.)