

1 S.142

2 Introduced by Senators Hashim and Vyhovsky

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Internal security and public safety; Vermont Criminal Justice Council;

6 general provisions

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to establish
8 minimum age and education requirements for the certification of law
9 enforcement officers beginning on July 1, 2024 and to exempt currently
10 certified law enforcement officers from these requirements.

11 An act relating to eligibility requirements for law enforcement officers

12 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

13 Sec. 1. 20 V.S.A. § 2358a is added to read:

14 § 2358a. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

15 OFFICER CERTIFICATION

16 In order to be certified as a law enforcement officer pursuant to the
17 requirements of this chapter, an applicant shall meet the following minimum
18 standards:

19 (1) be at least 25 years of age; and

1 (2) have a bachelor's degree or an advanced degree from a college or
2 university accredited by a regional, national, or programmatic institutional
3 accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

4 Sec. 2. EXEMPTION FOR CURRENT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

5 Notwithstanding the provisions of 20 V.S.A. § 2358a, a law enforcement
6 officer who was certified pursuant to 20 V.S.A. chapter 151 before July 1,
7 2024 may continue to be certified as a law enforcement officer pursuant to the
8 requirements of that chapter.

9 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

10 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.