

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 Section 3-7008 as follows:

6 (55 ILCS 5/3-7008) (from Ch. 34, par. 3-7008)

7 Sec. 3-7008. Appointments. The appointment of deputy
8 sheriffs in the Police Department, full-time deputy sheriffs
9 not employed as county police officers, or county corrections
10 officers and of employees in the Department of Corrections
11 shall be made from those applicants who have been certified by
12 the Board as being qualified for appointment. Certification
13 for appointment in one department shall not constitute
14 certification for appointment in another department.
15 Certification may be made at any point prior to appointment
16 and may be made in conjunction with the Sheriff's application
17 process. All persons so appointed as a county police officer
18 shall, at the time of their appointment, be not less than 21
19 years of age, or 20 years of age and have successfully
20 completed 2 years of law enforcement studies at an accredited
21 college or university. All persons so appointed as a
22 correctional officer or as a full-time deputy sheriff not
23 employed as a county police officer shall, at the time of their

1 appointment, be not less than 18 years of age. Any person so
2 appointed ~~subsequent to successful completion of 2 years of~~
3 ~~such law enforcement studies~~ shall not have power of arrest,
4 nor shall he or she be permitted to carry firearms, until he or
5 she reaches 21 years of age. Any person appointed shall be a
6 citizen of the United States, an individual who is legally
7 authorized to work in the United States under federal law and
8 is authorized under federal law to obtain, carry, or purchase
9 or otherwise possess a firearm, or an individual against whom
10 immigration action has been deferred by the U.S. Citizenship
11 and Immigration Services under the federal Deferred Action for
12 Childhood Arrivals (DACA) process and who is authorized under
13 federal law to obtain, carry, or purchase or otherwise possess
14 a firearm. In addition, all persons so appointed shall be not
15 more than the maximum age limit fixed by the Board from time to
16 time, be of sound mind and body, be of good moral character,
17 have not been convicted of a crime which the Board considers to
18 be detrimental to the applicant's ability to carry out his or
19 her duties, possess such prerequisites of training, education
20 and experience as the Board may from time to time prescribe,
21 and shall be required to pass successfully mental, physical,
22 psychiatric and other tests and examinations as may be
23 prescribed by the Board. Preference shall be given in such
24 appointments to persons who have honorably served in the
25 military or naval services of the United States. All
26 appointees shall serve a probationary period of at least 12

1 months for a county police officer, and at least 15 months for
2 a correctional officer or a full-time deputy sheriff not
3 employed as a county police officer, and during that period
4 may be discharged at the will of the Sheriff. However, civil
5 service employees of the house of correction who have
6 certified status at the time of the transfer of the house of
7 correction to the County Department of Corrections are not
8 subject to this probationary period, and they shall retain
9 their job titles, such tenure privileges as are now enjoyed
10 and any subsequent title changes shall not cause reduction in
11 rank or elimination of positions.

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

24 (Source: P.A. 103-357, eff. 1-1-24; 103-623, eff. 1-1-25.)