

# SENATE BILL 344

E4

8lr0593  
CF 8lr2269

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By: **Senators Kagan, Astle, Bates, Benson, Brochin, Conway, Currie, DeGrange, Eckardt, Edwards, Feldman, Ferguson, Guzzone, Hershey, Kasemeyer, Kelley, King, Klausmeier, Lee, Madaleno, Manno, Mathias, McFadden, Middleton, Miller, Muse, Nathan–Pulliam, Norman, Oaks, Peters, Pinsky, Ramirez, Ready, Reilly, Robinson, Rosapepe, Salling, Smith, Waugh, Young, Zirkin, and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2018

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission – Police Officer**  
3 **Certification – Eligibility**  
4 **(Freedom to Serve Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of altering the eligibility requirements for an individual to be certified by  
6 the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission as a police officer to  
7 require an individual to be either a United States citizen or a permanent legal  
8 resident of the United States who is an honorably discharged veteran of the United  
9 States armed forces; and generally relating to police officer certification.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article – Public Safety  
12 Section 3–209  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2011 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
16 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article – Public Safety**

18 3–209.

19 (a) The Commission shall certify as a police officer each individual who:

20 (1) (i) satisfactorily meets the standards of the Commission; or

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) provides the Commission with sufficient evidence that the  
2 individual has satisfactorily completed a training program in another state of equal quality  
3 and content as required by the Commission;

4 (2) submits to a psychological evaluation by a psychologist approved by the  
5 Commission; [and]

6 (3) submits to a criminal history records check in accordance with §  
7 3–209.1 of this subtitle; AND

8 (4) (I) IS A UNITED STATES CITIZEN; OR

9 (II) IS A PERMANENT LEGAL RESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES  
10 AND AN HONORABLY DISCHARGED VETERAN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED  
11 FORCES.

12 (b) The Commission may certify as a police officer an individual who is not  
13 considered a police officer under § 3–201(f)(3) of this subtitle if the individual meets the  
14 selection and training standards of the Commission.

15 (c) Each certificate issued to a police officer under this subtitle remains the  
16 property of the Commission.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 October 1, 2018.