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Date:

(Filing No. S- )

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

**STATE OF MAINE  
SENATE  
131ST LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to S.P. 34, L.D. 42, “An Act Regarding the Commissioner of Corrections' Role in Death Benefit Determinations and Regarding Training for Corrections Officers”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

**'An Act Regarding Training for Corrections Officers'**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

**'Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2801-A, sub-§1-B** is enacted to read:

**1-B. Adult corrections officer.** "Adult corrections officer" means a person who is responsible for the custody or direct supervision of a person confined in a county or regional jail or state adult correctional facility pursuant to an order of a court or as a result of an arrest and who possesses a current and valid certificate issued by the board pursuant to section 2803-A, subsection 5.

**Sec. 2. 25 MRSA §2801-A, sub-§2,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 147, §5, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

**2. Corrections officer.** "Corrections officer" means an adult corrections officer or juvenile corrections officer.

**Sec. 3. 25 MRSA §2801-A, sub-§2-B** is enacted to read:

**2-B. Juvenile corrections officer.** "Juvenile corrections officer" means a person who is responsible for the custody or direct supervision of a person confined in a state juvenile correctional facility pursuant to an order of a court or as a result of an arrest and who possesses a current and valid certificate issued by the board pursuant to section 2803-A, subsection 5-B.

**Sec. 4. 25 MRSA §2803-A, sub-§5,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 147, §8, is further amended to read:

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

1           **5. Training and certification of adult corrections officers in State.** In accordance  
2 with this chapter, to establish training and certification standards for all adult corrections  
3 officers, set requirements for board-approved courses, prescribe curriculum and certify  
4 graduates of board-approved courses and persons for whom the board has waived the  
5 training requirements of this chapter. Certification must be based on the officer's  
6 demonstration of having acquired specific knowledge and skills directly related to job  
7 performance; as a corrections officer who is responsible for the custody or direct  
8 supervision of persons confined in a county or regional jail or state adult correctional  
9 facility.

10 A corrections officer who is certified and an employee of a county or regional jail or state  
11 adult correctional facility on the date the board establishes a separate basic training course  
12 and certification standards for juvenile corrections officers pursuant to subsection 5-B must  
13 be certified as an adult corrections officer pursuant to this subsection;

14           **Sec. 5. 25 MRSA §2803-A, sub-§5-B** is enacted to read:

15           **5-B. Training and certification of juvenile corrections officers in State.** In  
16 accordance with this chapter, to establish training and certification standards for all juvenile  
17 corrections officers, set requirements for board-approved courses, prescribe curriculum and  
18 certify graduates of board-approved courses and persons for whom the board has waived  
19 the training requirements of this chapter. Certification must be based on the officer's  
20 demonstration of having acquired specific knowledge and skills directly related to job  
21 performance as a corrections officer who is responsible for the custody or direct supervision  
22 of persons confined in a state juvenile correctional facility.

23 A corrections officer who is certified and an employee of a state juvenile correctional  
24 facility on the date the board establishes a separate basic training course and certification  
25 standards for juvenile corrections officers pursuant to this subsection must be certified as a  
26 juvenile corrections officer pursuant to this subsection;

27           **Sec. 6. 25 MRSA §2804-D,** as amended by PL 2017, c. 436, §1, is further amended  
28 to read:

29           **§2804-D. Basic corrections training**

30           **1. Required.** As a condition to the continued employment of any person as a  
31 corrections officer, that person must successfully complete, within the first 12 months of  
32 employment, a basic training course as approved by the board. The board may approve a  
33 separate basic training course and certification standards for juvenile corrections officers.  
34 Thereafter, as a condition of continued employment as a corrections officer, the officer  
35 must satisfactorily maintain the basic certification. The board, under extenuating and  
36 emergency circumstances in individual cases, may extend the 12-month period for not more  
37 than 180 days. The board, in individual cases, may waive basic training requirements when  
38 the facts indicate that an equivalent course has been successfully completed in another state  
39 or federal jurisdiction. A full-time correctional trade instructor must meet the training  
40 requirements established under this subsection for corrections officers. Beginning January  
41 1, 2018, the basic training course must include 8 hours of training in how to identify,  
42 understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorder that is  
43 provided by a trainer who is certified by a nationally recognized organization that provides  
44 evidence-based mental health ~~first aid~~ training.'

1 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section  
2 number to read consecutively.

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This amendment provides for the training and certification of adult corrections officers  
5 and juvenile corrections officers and provides that the Board of Trustees of the Maine  
6 Criminal Justice Academy may approve a separate basic training course and certification  
7 standards for juvenile corrections officers. The amendment also provides that a corrections  
8 officer who is certified and an employee of a county or regional jail or state adult  
9 correctional facility on the date the board establishes a separate basic training course and  
10 certification standards for juvenile corrections officers must be certified as an adult  
11 corrections officer.

12 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

13 **(See attached)**