

Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission Certified and Sworn Correctional Officers Equality Act of 2023

“The Correctional Officers Equality Act of 2023”

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

2 **SECTION 1.** This bill seeks to request retroactive payment of the second round (2022)
3 First Responder Bonuses for county CJSTC certified and sworn
4 correctional officers/detention deputies and to establish and secure
5 equal rights and equal benefits for Criminal Justice Standards and
6 Training Commission (CJSTC) certified and sworn correctional officers
7 under CS/HB 3: Law Enforcement and HB 5007: State-administered
8 Retirement Systems

9 **SECTION 2.** The Florida Department of Law Enforcement will oversee enforcement of
10 this bill and the Criminal Justice Standards & Training Commission (CJSTC)
11 will serve as the specific enforcement mechanism. This bill seeks to: (a)
12 request retroactive payment of the second round (2022) First Responder
13 Bonuses for county CJSTC certified and sworn correctional
14 officers/detention deputies, (b) establish and secure equal rights and
15 equal benefits for CJSTC certified and sworn correctional officers under
16 CS/HB 3: Law Enforcement, (c) establish and secure equal rights and
17 equal benefits for CJSTC certified and sworn correctional officers under
18 HB 5007: State-administered Retirement Systems, (d) establish a legal
19 definition/precedent that is inclusive of both CJSTC sworn law
20 enforcement officers and CJSTC sworn correctional officers/detention
21 deputies for the purpose of securing legislative clarity and for ensuring
22 parity on behalf of CJSTC certified and sworn correctional
23 officers/detention deputies in matters intended to benefit both special
24 risk classes and so therefore seeks to;

25 A. add a specific clause to **HB 5001 — General Appropriations Act**
26 **(2023)** , to request immediate retroactive payment by the DEO of the
27 second round (2022) one thousand dollars first responder bonuses (as

28 announced by Governor DeSantis for all of Florida’s first responders)
29 for a member of the Special Risk Class who is a correctional officer
30 who meets the criteria in s. 121.0515(3)(c)

31 B. amend **CS/HB 3: Law Enforcement**, so that it specifically provides
32 equal rights and equal access to all benefits provided in the bill for a
33 member of the Special Risk Class who is a correctional officer who
34 meets the criteria in s. 121.0515(3)(c),

35 C. amend Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (13) of **HB 5007: State-**
36 **administered Retirement Systems**, so that it reads “Effective July 1,
37 2023, a member of the Special Risk Class who is a correctional officer
38 who meets the criteria in s. 121.0515(3)(c) and who is a DROP
39 participant on or after July 1, 2023, may participate in DROP for up to
40 36 calendar months 92 beyond the 60-month period if he or she
41 enters DROP on or before June 30, 2028.

42 D. establish a legal definition/precedent that is inclusive of both CJSTC
43 sworn law enforcement officers and CJSTC sworn correctional
44 officers/detention deputies such as “CJSTC Certified & Sworn Law
45 Enforcement” for the purpose of securing legislative clarity and for
46 ensuring parity on behalf of CJSTC certified and sworn correctional
47 officers/detention deputies in matters intended to benefit both
48 special risk classes

49 **SECTION 4.** This legislation will take effect on July 1, 2023. All laws in conflict with this
50 legislation are hereby declared null and void.

Introduced for Congressional Debate by _____.