

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to qualifications for county emergency
 3 management directors; amending s. 252.38, F.S.;
 4 requiring county emergency management directors to
 5 meet specified qualifications; requiring such
 6 directors to meet such qualifications by a specified
 7 date; providing an effective date.
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9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 11 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
 12 252.38, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

13 252.38 Emergency management powers of political
 14 subdivisions.—Safeguarding the life and property of its citizens
 15 is an innate responsibility of the governing body of each
 16 political subdivision of the state.

17 (1) COUNTIES.—

18 (b)1. Each county emergency management agency created and
 19 established pursuant to ss. 252.31-252.90 shall have a director.
 20 The director must meet the following minimum training and
 21 education qualifications:

22 a. A bachelor's degree.

23 b. Six years of verifiable experience in emergency
 24 services, emergency management, emergency planning, law
 25 enforcement, or fire-fighting services, of which at least 3

26 years must be supervisory experience in emergency management,
27 responses, or operations for a county or municipality.

28 c. A master's degree in emergency preparedness or
29 management, business or public administration, communications,
30 finance, homeland security, public health, criminal justice,
31 meteorology, or environmental science may be substituted for 2
32 of the years of experience required in sub-subparagraph 1.b. but
33 not for the required years of supervisory experience.

34 d. Completion of the following National Incident
35 Management System courses, or equivalent courses established by
36 the Federal Emergency Management Agency through the Emergency
37 Management Institute:

38 I. ICS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System;

39 II. ICS-200: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action
40 Incidents;

41 III. IS-700: National Incident Management System, An
42 Introduction;

43 IV. IS-703: NIMS Resource Management; and

44 V. IS-800: National Response Framework, An Introduction.

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46 A valid accreditation as a Certified Master Exercise
47 Practitioner by the Federal Emergency Management Agency,
48 Certified Emergency Manager, or Florida Professional Emergency
49 Manager will satisfy the requirements of this sub-subparagraph.

50 e. A valid driver license. If the license is not a Florida

51 driver license, the director must obtain a Florida driver
52 license within 30 days of being appointed as director.

53 ~~2. established in a job description approved by the~~
54 ~~county.~~ The director shall be appointed by the board of county
55 commissioners or the chief administrative officer of the county,
56 as described in chapter 125 or the county charter, if
57 applicable, to serve at the pleasure of the appointing
58 authority, in conformance with applicable resolutions,
59 ordinances, and laws.

60 3. A county constitutional officer, or an employee of a
61 county constitutional officer, may be appointed as director
62 following prior notification to the division.

63 4. Each board of county commissioners shall promptly
64 inform the division of the appointment of the director and other
65 personnel.

66 5. Each director has direct responsibility for the
67 organization, administration, and operation of the county
68 emergency management agency. The director shall coordinate
69 emergency management activities, services, and programs within
70 the county and shall serve as liaison to the division and other
71 local emergency management agencies and organizations.

72 Section 2. A county emergency management director who does
73 not satisfy the training or certification requirements of
74 section 1 of this act as of July 1, 2024, shall have until June
75 30, 2026, to complete such requirements.

CS/HB 1567

2024

76 | Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024. |