

House Bill 439

By: Representatives Howard of the 124th, Powell of the 32nd, Frazier of the 126th, Talton of the 147th, Murphy of the 127th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 15-16-1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 qualifications, training requirements, and exemptions for sheriffs, so as to clarify provisions
3 related to proof of eligibility to hold office; to provide for related matters; to repeal
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 15-16-1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to qualifications,
8 training requirements, and exemptions for sheriffs, is amended in paragraph (2) of subsection
9 (c) as follows:

10 "(2) Each person offering his or her candidacy for the office of sheriff shall, within 60
11 days prior to or at the time such person qualifies:

12 (A) File with the officer before whom such person has qualified to seek the office of
13 sheriff a certified copy of his or her birth certificate and a certified copy of his or her
14 high school diploma, a certified copy of his or her high school transcript indicating the
15 candidate has successfully graduated, or certified proof of its a recognized equivalent
16 in education training as established by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and
17 Training Council; and

18 (B) Swear or affirm before the officer before whom such person has qualified to seek
19 the office of sheriff that he or she meets all of the qualifications required by this
20 subsection, except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (J) of paragraph (1) of this
21 subsection, and that he or she has complied with the requirements of subparagraph (G)
22 of paragraph (1) of this subsection no later than the close of qualification for election
23 to the office of sheriff."

24 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.