

HOUSE BILL 669: Fees to Certify as a Company Police Agency.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:House FinanceDate:June 21, 2017Introduced by:Rep. FairclothPrepared by:Greg Roney

Analysis of: Second Edition Committee Counsel

OVERVIEW: House Bill 669 would raise the fees the Attorney General is authorized to charge to administer the Company Police Act and the Campus Police Act. The fee increases are identical as follows::

- Application for police agency certification from \$250 to \$500.
- Annual renewal fee for police agency certification from \$200 to \$250.
- Application for police officer commission from \$100 to \$300.
- Annual renewal fee for police officer commission from \$50 to \$150.

CURRENT LAW: Company police agencies are licensed and regulated by the Attorney General under the Company Police Act of Chapter 74E and the Campus Police Act of Chapter 74G. Company police officers are sworn law enforcement officers who must maintain the same standards required of State law enforcement officers under the Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission. Company police officers fall into three categories: Campus Police, Railroad Police, or Special Police.

During the performance of their duties of employment, they have the same powers as municipal and county police officers to make arrests for both felonies and misdemeanors and may charge for offenses occurring in the following locations:

- Real property owned or in the possession and control of their employer.
- Real property owned or in the possession and control of a person who has contracted with their employer for on-site company police security personnel services.
- Any other real property while in continuous and immediate pursuit of a person for an offense committed on the property described above.

If authorized by a superior officer, company police officers may carry concealed weapons. A violation of any of the provisions of Chapter 74E by any person, firm, association, or corporation, or their agents and employees is a Class 1 misdemeanor.

The Campus Police Act, Chapter 74G of the General Statutes, authorizes public institutions operating under the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina or the State Board of Community Colleges, and private educational institutions licensed, or exempt from licensure by, the Board of Governors, to apply to the Attorney General to be certified as a campus police agency. The provisions of Chapter 74G regarding certification, insurance, training and standards, jurisdiction and arrest authority, and the carrying of concealed weapons, parallel that of company police agencies under Chapter 74E.

Karen Cochrane-Brown Director



Legislative Analysis Division 919-733-2578

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The Attorney General is authorized to charge fees for the administration of both Chapter 74E and Chapter 74G, including annual renewal fees for the certification of company and campus police agencies and individual company and campus police officers.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 669 would enable the Attorney General to raise the following administrative fees under G.S. 74E-12 (Company Police Act) and G.S. 74G-12 (Campus Police Act):

- Application for police agency certification from \$250.00 to \$500.00.
- Annual renewal fee for police agency certification from \$200.00 to \$250.00.
- Application for police officer commission from \$100.00 to \$300.00.
- Annual renewal fee for police officer commission from \$50.00 to \$150.00.

EFFECTIVE DATE: House Bill 669 would be effective on January 1, 2018.

Billy Godwin with the Legislative Analysis Division substantially contributed to this summary.