

FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION



Expanding Tuition Waiver Eligibility to Sheriff's Office Personnel

Currently, State of Florida employees can receive up to six credit hours of tuition waived per term at state universities and Florida College System institutions through the State Employee Tuition Waiver Program. This is offered on a space-available basis and reimbursed directly by the state. However, employees of Florida's Sheriff's Offices are not included in this program and must often cover the cost of tuition themselves if they wish to pursue higher education. While some Sheriff's Offices may offer internal tuition assistance, such support is not universally available due to budgetary constraints and competing operational priorities.

This legislation seeks to close that gap by extending eligibility for the tuition waiver program to sheriff's office employees in the state, allowing them to further their education without financial burden. Tuition would be covered through the existing state reimbursement model, with waivers applied only on a space-available basis after the drop/add period, to ensure tuition-paying students are not displaced.

By expanding access to higher education, this measure supports professional development, boosts employee retention, and strengthens Florida's public safety workforce, reflecting the state's continued investment in those who serve and protect our communities.

Support HB 307 by Representative Johnson and SB 372 by Senator Trumbull



850.877.2165



FLSHERIFFS.ORG