

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to standards for correctional
3 officers; amending s. 943.13, F.S.; reducing the
4 minimum age for employment as a correctional officer
5 from 19 years of age to 18 years of age; creating s.
6 944.145, F.S.; prohibiting a correctional officer who
7 is under 19 years of age from supervising inmates;
8 authorizing such an officer to perform all other tasks
9 of specified correctional officers; providing an
10 effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 943.13, Florida
15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 943.13 Officers' minimum qualifications for employment or
17 appointment.—On or after October 1, 1984, any person employed or
18 appointed as a full-time, part-time, or auxiliary law
19 enforcement officer or correctional officer; on or after October
20 1, 1986, any person employed as a full-time, part-time, or
21 auxiliary correctional probation officer; and on or after
22 October 1, 1986, any person employed as a full-time, part-time,
23 or auxiliary correctional officer by a private entity under
24 contract to the Department of Corrections, to a county
25 commission, or to the Department of Management Services shall:

26 (1) Be at least 19 years of age, except that any person
27 employed as a full-time, part-time, or auxiliary correctional
28 officer shall be at least 18 years of age.

29 Section 2. Section 944.145, Florida Statutes, is created
30 to read:

31 944.145 Correctional officers under the age of 19.—A
32 correctional officer who is under the age of 19 years shall not
33 supervise inmates, but may perform all of the other duties
34 performed by a full-time, part-time, or auxiliary correctional
35 officer.

36 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.