



DeKalb County Government

Manuel J. Maloof Center
1300 Commerce Drive
Decatur, Georgia 30030

Agenda Item Substitute

File #: 2021-3291
File Status: Action

12/21/2021

Public Hearing: YES NO **Department:** Board of Commissioners

SUBJECT:

Commission District(s): All Districts

A Resolution of The Governing Authority of DeKalb County, Requests The DeKalb Delegation Of The General Assembly Support An Amendment To The Georgia Code, § 35-8-8, To Add Legally Permitted Residents To The Criteria Of Peace Officers In The State of Georgia.

Information Contact: John W. Manson IV

Phone Number: 404-371-6207

PURPOSE:

To support legislation amending Georgia Code, § 35-8-8, to add Legally Permitted Residents to the criteria of Peace Officers in the State of Georgia;

NEED/IMPACT:

To adopt the resolution;

FISCAL IMPACT:

None;

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve the resolution and authorize the chief executive officer to execute all necessary documents.....

RESOLUTION**A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA TO THE DEKALB COUNTY DELEGATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO AMEND STATE CODE BY ADDING “LEGALLY PERMITTED RESIDENTS” TO PEACE OFFICER CRITERIA AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, the Governing Authority of DeKalb County requests that the DeKalb Delegation of the General Assembly support the amendment to the Georgia Code, § 35-8-8, to add “Legally Permitted Residents” to the criteria of Peace Officers in the State of Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, Georgia has a long history of welcoming immigrants and refugees, who have gone through proper U.S. entry procedures, to settle across the State, be provided opportunities to thrive within a community and to expand the local economy; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia requires Peace Officer applicants to meet several standards for consideration, of those include the requirement of being a U.S Citizen however, the process to gain legal U.S. Citizenship can take upwards of five (5) years and,

WHEREAS, due to the fall of Afghanistan, many former Afghan security, police, and military officers have been left to relocate from their country, with those relocating to Georgia being unable to apply as Peace Officers and utilize their training and experience; and,

WHEREAS, allowing legally permitted residents to be able to apply as Georgia Peace Officers can provide an added opportunity for immigrants and refugees, with proper experience, to prosper as a productive member of the State of Georgia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing authority of DeKalb County, Georgia that the following is requested:

1. The General Assembly amend the Georgia Code, § 35-8-8, to add “Legally Permitted Residents” to the criteria of those who can apply as Peace Officers in the State of Georgia; and,
2. The Executive Assistant or designee delivery a copy of this resolution to each member of the Georgia General Assembly representing a portion of DeKalb County.

ADOPTED by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, this _____ day of _____, 2021.

STEPHEN R. BRADSHAW
 Presiding Officer
 Board of Commissioners
 DeKalb County, Georgia

12.15.21

APPROVED by the Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County, this ____ day of
____, 2021.

MICHAEL THURMOND

Chief Executive Officer
DeKalb County, Georgia

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BARBARA SANDERS-NORWOOD, CCC

Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and
Chief Executive Officer
DeKalb County, Georgia

VIVIANE ERNSTES

County Attorney