

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**

WHEREAS, the Governing Authority of DeKalb County requests the DeKalb Delegation of the General Assembly support an amendment to 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. procedure, to settle across the State and be provided opportunities to thrive within a community, and 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 an U.S Citizen; however process to gain legal U.S. Citizenship can take an upwards of five (5) years while meeting additional requirements; and,

WHEREAS, Due to the fall of Afghanistan, many former Afghan security, police, and military officers have been left to relocate from their country and therefore, finding their training and experience unapplicable; and,

WHEREAS, Allowing Legally permitted residents to apply as police officers can provide an added tool to help immigrants and refugees, with proper experience, with an opportunity to prosper as a productive member of the State of Georgia; and,

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

1. The General Assembly amend Georgia Code, § 35-8-8, to add legally permitted Residents to the criteria of Peace Officers in the State of Georgia;
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

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

November 17, 2021

_____, 2021.

MICHAEL THURMOND

Chief Executive Officer
DeKalb County, Georgia

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BARBARA SANDERS-NORWOOD, CCC

Clerk

VIVIANE ERNSTES

County Attorney