

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 277

BY REPRESENTATIVE JAMES

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

LAW ENFORCE/OFFICERS: Provides relative to training of peace officers

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 40:2404.2 and to repeal R.S. 40:2405.5, relative to peace officers; to provide
3 for training of peace officers; to provide for minimum training requirements; to
4 provide for annual training; to provide for certain mandatory basic and annual
5 certification hours for peace officers; to provide for an emergency effective date; and
6 to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 40:2404.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §2404.2. Minimum training requirements; basic curriculum; annual training

10 A. In addition to all training requirements provided for in this Chapter, in
11 order to be certified as a level one basic law enforcement peace officer, all persons
12 shall successfully complete a minimum of four hundred hours of core curriculum for
13 basic peace officers as prescribed by the council.

14 B. All full-time, part-time, or reserve peace officers shall successfully
15 complete a minimum of twenty hours of in-service training requirements prescribed
16 by the council on an annual basis. All initial training requirements must be
17 completed within the first calendar year after receiving P.O.S.T. certification and
18 annually thereafter.

19 C. No later than January 1, 2018, the council shall develop and implement
20 curriculum for de-escalation, bias policing recognition, sudden in-custody death, and

1 crisis intervention training, which shall include training for law enforcement
2 interaction with persons with mental illness and persons with developmental
3 disabilities, for peace officers that consists of classroom or internet instruction, or
4 both.

5 Section 2. R.S. 40:2405.5 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

6 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
7 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
8 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
9 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
10 effective on the day following such approval.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 277 Reengrossed

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Abstract: Requires certain mandatory basic and annual certification hours for peace officers.

Present law establishes the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training and authorizes the council to develop curriculum requirements for training of peace officers and to accredit law enforcement training centers. Present law further provides for the training requirements for peace officers.

Proposed law requires all peace officers to successfully complete a minimum of 400 hours of basic core curriculum training and a minimum of 20 hours of in-service training on an annual basis to maintain P.O.S.T. certification, to be prescribed by the council.

Proposed law requires the council to develop and implement curriculum for de-escalation, bias policing recognition, sudden in-custody death, and crisis intervention training, including law enforcement interaction with persons with mental illness and persons with developmental disabilities, for peace officers no later than Jan. 1, 2018.

Present law requires the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training to develop and implement by Aug. 1, 2006, a training course on law enforcement interaction with mentally ill or developmentally disabled persons with assistance from community, local, and state organizations specialized in the area of working with such population, subject to available funding. Proposed law repeals present law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 40:2404.2; Repeals R.S. 40:2405.5)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Judiciary to the original bill:

1. Remove proposed provisions related to the time period in which peace officers must successfully complete a certified-training program approved by the council and pass a council approved examination.
2. Remove proposed provisions related to requirements for maintaining certification for peace officers.
3. Make technical amendments.

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the engrossed bill:

1. Add requirement that training curriculum required under proposed law include training for law enforcement interaction with persons with mental illness and persons with developmental disabilities.
2. Add repeal of present law requiring implementation of a training course by Aug. 1, 2006, subject to available funding, for law enforcement interaction with mentally ill or developmentally disabled persons.