

By: Naishtat

H.B. No. 1338

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to training for peace officers and first responders on certain persons affected by trauma.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Sections 1701.261 and 1701.262 to read as follows:

Sec. 1701.261. ACQUIRED AND TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES TRAINING. (a) In this section, "first responder" has the meaning assigned by Section [421.095](#), Government Code.

(b) The commission, in collaboration with the office of acquired brain injury of the Health and Human Services Commission and the Texas Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Council, shall establish and maintain a training program for peace officers and first responders that provides information on:

(1) the effects of an acquired brain injury and of a traumatic brain injury; and

(2) techniques to interact with persons who have an acquired brain injury or a traumatic brain injury.

Sec 1701.262. TRAUMA AFFECTED VETERANS TRAINING. (a) In this section, "veteran" means a person who has served in:

(1) the army, navy, air force, coast guard, or marine corps of the United States; or

(2) the Texas National Guard as defined by Section

1 431.001, Government Code.

2 (b) The commission, in collaboration with the Texas
3 Veterans Commission, shall establish and maintain a training
4 program for peace officers that provides information on veterans
5 with combat-related trauma, post-traumatic stress, post-traumatic
6 stress disorder, or a traumatic brain injury.

7 SECTION 2. Section 1701.352, Occupations Code, is amended
8 by adding Subsection (j) to read as follows:

9 (j) The commission shall establish a continuing education
10 program relating to the identification of veterans affected by
11 trauma and intervention and de-escalation techniques to facilitate
12 interaction with veterans affected by trauma. An officer may not
13 complete the training under this subsection by taking an online
14 course.

15 SECTION 3. Not later than December 31, 2015, the Texas
16 Commission on Law Enforcement, in collaboration with the Texas
17 Veterans Commission, shall approve the curriculum for the
18 continuing education program described by Section 1701.352(j),
19 Occupations Code, as added by this Act.

20 SECTION 4. Not later than September 1, 2017, the Texas
21 Commission on Law Enforcement shall begin offering the training
22 programs described by Sections 1701.261 and 1701.262, Occupations
23 Code, as added by this Act.

24 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.