

By: Walle

H.B. No. 2279

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to child and adolescent interaction education and training
for certain peace and reserve law enforcement officers.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1701.253, Occupations Code, is amended
by adding Subsections (m) and (n) to read as follows:

(m) As part of the minimum curriculum requirements, the
commission shall require an officer to complete a statewide
education and training program on techniques to facilitate
interaction with children, adolescents, and teenagers, including
training on:

(1) youth development and psychology;
(2) positive behavioral interventions and supports,
conflict resolution techniques, and restorative justice
techniques; and

(3) children with disabilities or special needs,
including mental or behavioral health needs.

(n) An officer shall complete the program under Subsection
(m) not later than the second anniversary of the date the officer is
licensed under this chapter or the date the officer applies for an
intermediate proficiency certificate, whichever date is earlier.

SECTION 2. Section 1701.402, Occupations Code, is amended
by adding Subsection (m) to read as follows:

(m) As a requirement for an intermediate or advanced

1 proficiency certificate, an officer must complete an education and
2 training program on techniques to facilitate interaction with
3 children, adolescents, and teenagers under Section 1701.253(m).

4 SECTION 3. Not later than March 31, 2016, the Texas
5 Commission on Law Enforcement shall approve the curriculum for the
6 education and training program described by Section 1701.253(m),
7 Occupations Code, as added by this Act.

8 SECTION 4. Notwithstanding Section 1701.253(n),
9 Occupations Code, as added by this Act, an officer licensed under
10 Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, on the effective date of this Act
11 must complete the education and training program described by
12 Section 1701.253(m), Occupations Code, as added by this Act, not
13 later than March 31, 2018, as a condition for continuing to hold the
14 license.

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