

By: Dutton

H.B. No. 2372

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to training requirements for juvenile correctional officers employed by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department.

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

SECTION 1. Section 242.009(b), Human Resources Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The department shall provide competency-based training to each juvenile correctional officer employed by the department, which must include on-the-job training. The department shall provide each juvenile correctional officer with at least 240 [300] hours of training and the officer must demonstrate competency in the trained subjects [ , which must include on-the-job training, ] before the officer independently commences the officer's duties at the facility. Each officer must complete at least 300 hours of training in the officer's first year of employment. The training must provide the officer with information and instruction related to the officer's duties, including information and instruction concerning:

(1) the juvenile justice system of this state, including the juvenile correctional facility system;

(2) security procedures;

(3) the supervision of children committed to the department;

(4) signs of suicide risks and suicide precautions;

1           (5) signs and symptoms of the abuse, assault, neglect,  
2 and exploitation of a child, including sexual abuse, sexual  
3 assault, and human trafficking, and the manner in which to report  
4 the abuse, assault, neglect, or exploitation of a child;

5           (6) the neurological, physical, and psychological  
6 development of adolescents;

7           (7) department rules and regulations, including  
8 rules, regulations, and tactics concerning the use of force;

9           (8) appropriate restraint techniques;

10          (9) the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (42 U.S.C.  
11 Section 15601, et seq.);

12          (10) the rights and responsibilities of children in  
13 the custody of the department;

14          (11) interpersonal relationship skills;

15          (12) the social and cultural lifestyles of children in  
16 the custody of the department;

17          (13) first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation;

18          (14) counseling techniques;

19          (15) conflict resolution and dispute mediation,  
20 including de-escalation techniques;

21          (16) behavior management;

22          (17) mental health issues;

23          (18) employee rights, employment discrimination, and  
24 sexual harassment; and

25          (19) trauma-informed care.

26          SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
27 to a juvenile correctional officer hired by the Texas Juvenile

1 Justice Department on or after the effective date of this Act. A  
2 juvenile correctional officer hired before the effective date of  
3 this Act is governed by the law in effect immediately before the  
4 effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for  
5 that purpose.

6 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.