

By: Giddings, Walle

H.B. No. 2684

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the creation of a model training curriculum and to the
3 required training for certain school district peace officers and
4 school resource officers.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 37, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 37.0812 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 37.0812. TRAINING POLICY: SCHOOL DISTRICT PEACE
9 OFFICERS AND SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS. A school district with an
10 enrollment of 5,000 or more students that commissions a school
11 district peace officer or at which a school resource officer
12 provides law enforcement shall adopt a policy requiring the officer
13 to complete the education and training program required by Section
14 1701.263, Occupations Code.

15 SECTION 2. Subchapter F, Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, is
16 amended by adding Sections 1701.262 and 1701.263 to read as
17 follows:

18 Sec. 1701.262. TRAINING FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT PEACE OFFICERS
19 AND SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS. (a) In this section:

20 (1) "Center" means the Texas School Safety Center at
21 Texas State University.

22 (2) "Institute" means an institute dedicated to
23 providing training to law enforcement and the development of law
24 enforcement policies, such as the Law Enforcement Management

1 Institute of Texas at Sam Houston State University or the Caruth
2 Police Institute.

3 (3) "School district peace officer" means a peace
4 officer commissioned under Section 37.081, Education Code.

5 (4) "School resource officer" has the meaning assigned
6 by Section 1701.601.

7 (b) The commission, in consultation with an institute or the
8 center, shall create, adopt, and distribute a model training
9 curriculum for school district peace officers and school resource
10 officers.

11 (c) The curriculum developed under this section must
12 incorporate learning objectives regarding:

13 (1) child and adolescent development and psychology;

14 (2) positive behavioral interventions and supports,
15 conflict resolution techniques, and restorative justice
16 techniques;

17 (3) de-escalation techniques and techniques for
18 limiting the use of force, including the use of physical,
19 mechanical, and chemical restraints;

20 (4) the mental and behavioral health needs of children
21 with disabilities or special needs; and

22 (5) mental health crisis intervention.

23 (d) Before adopting and distributing any curriculum under
24 this section, the commission shall provide a 30-day period for
25 public comment.

26 (e) The commission shall provide the curriculum developed
27 under this section and any supplemental education materials created

1 for the curriculum to:

2 (1) school district police departments;

3 (2) law enforcement agencies that place peace officers
4 in a school as school resource officers under a memorandum of
5 understanding; and

6 (3) any entity that provides training to school
7 district peace officers or school resource officers.

8 (f) The commission shall review curriculum developed and
9 adopted under this section and update subject matter contained in
10 the curriculum as needed at least once every four years.

11 Sec. 1701.263. EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL
12 DISTRICT PEACE OFFICERS AND SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS. (a) In this
13 section:

14 (1) "School district peace officer" has the meaning
15 assigned by Section 1701.262.

16 (2) "School resource officer" has the meaning assigned
17 by Section 1701.601.

18 (b) The commission by rule shall require a school district
19 peace officer or a school resource officer who is commissioned by or
20 who provides law enforcement at a school district with an
21 enrollment of 5,000 or more students to successfully complete an
22 education and training program described by this section before or
23 within 120 days of the officer's commission by or placement in the
24 district or a campus of the district. The program must:

25 (1) consist of at least 16 hours of training;

26 (2) be approved by the commission; and

27 (3) provide training in accordance with the curriculum

1 developed under Section 1701.262 in each subject area listed in
2 Subsection (c) of that section.

3 (b-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (b) or a rule adopted
4 under that section, a school district peace officer or school
5 resource officer is not required to successfully complete the
6 education and training program required by this section if the
7 officer has successfully completed the advanced training course
8 conducted by the National Association of School Resource Officers
9 or a training course equivalent to that advanced training course,
10 as determined by the commission.

11 (c) The education and training program required under this
12 section may not require a peace officer to pass an examination,
13 except that the commission shall administer an examination to
14 qualify officers to provide the education and training to other
15 officers. The examination to qualify officers to provide the
16 education and training must test the officer's knowledge and
17 recognition of the subject areas listed in Section 1701.262(c).

18 (d) The commission shall issue a professional achievement
19 or proficiency certificate to a peace officer who completes the
20 education and training program under this section.

21 SECTION 3. (a) Not later than December 1, 2015, the Texas
22 Commission on Law Enforcement shall create the model training
23 curriculum for school district peace officers and school resource
24 officers required by Section 1701.262, Occupations Code, as added
25 by this Act.

26 (b) Not later than February 1, 2016, the Texas Commission on
27 Law Enforcement shall make available to school district peace

1 officers and school resource officers the training required by
2 Section 1701.263, Occupations Code, as added by this Act.

3 (c) Notwithstanding Section 1701.263(b), Occupations Code,
4 as added by this Act, a school district peace officer or school
5 resource officer who commences employment with or commences
6 providing law enforcement at a school district with an enrollment
7 of 10,000 or more students on a date occurring before February 1,
8 2016, shall complete the training required by Section 1701.263,
9 Occupations Code, as added by this Act, as soon as practicable and
10 not later than June 1, 2016. This subsection does not apply to an
11 officer who is exempt from the training established under Section
12 1701.263, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, because the
13 officer has completed the training described by Subsection (b-1) of
14 that section.

15 (d) Not later than February 1, 2016, a school district with
16 an enrollment of 5,000 or more students shall adopt the training
17 policy for school district peace officers and school resource
18 officers required by Section 37.0812, Education Code, as added by
19 this Act.

20 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
21 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
22 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
23 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
24 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.