86R13763 SOS-F

By:  Lucio III H.B. No. 1415

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to continuing education training on civil process for constables.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 1701.3545, Occupations Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (b), and (f) and adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

(a)  A public institution of higher education selected by the commission shall establish and offer a program of initial training and a program of continuing education for constables. The curriculum for each program must relate to law enforcement management [~~and civil process issues~~]. The institution selected under this subsection shall develop the curriculum for the programs. The curriculum must be approved by the commission.

(b)  Each constable must complete at least 40 hours of continuing education provided by the selected institution under Subsection (a) [~~this section~~] each 48-month period. The commission by rule shall establish a uniform 48-month continuing education training period.

(b-1)  In addition to the requirements of Subsection (b), during each 48-month continuing education training period each constable must complete at least 20 hours of continuing education instruction on civil process to be provided by a public institution of higher education selected by the commission under this subsection. The commission shall establish minimum curriculum requirements for the continuing education course on civil process required by this subsection. The commission may waive the continuing education requirements of this subsection if:

(1)  a constable requests a waiver because of hardship; and

(2)  the commission determines that a hardship exists.

(f)  An individual who is subject to the continuing education requirements of Subsections [~~Subsection~~] (b) and (b-1) is exempt from other continuing education requirements under this subchapter.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.