87R19573 JCG-D

By:  Lopez, Bowers H.B. No. 1442

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1442:

By:  Tinderholt C.S.H.B. No. 1442

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to required training on trauma-impacted veterans for certain peace officers.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 1701.352(b), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  The commission shall require a state, county, special district, or municipal agency that appoints or employs peace officers to provide each peace officer with a training program at least once every 48 months that is approved by the commission and consists of:

(1)  topics selected by the agency; and

(2)  for an officer holding only a basic proficiency certificate, not more than 20 hours of education and training that contain curricula incorporating the learning objectives developed by the commission regarding:

(A)  civil rights, racial sensitivity, and cultural diversity;

(B)  de-escalation and crisis intervention techniques to facilitate interaction with persons with mental impairments, including training on identifying and interacting with trauma-impacted veterans and training on diverting those veterans to available community resources;

(C)  de-escalation techniques to facilitate interaction with members of the public, including techniques for limiting the use of force resulting in bodily injury; and

(D)  unless determined by the agency head to be inconsistent with the officer's assigned duties:

(i)  the recognition, documentation, and investigation of cases that involve child abuse or neglect, family violence, and sexual assault, including the use of best practices and trauma-informed techniques to effectively recognize, document, and investigate those cases; and

(ii)  issues concerning sex offender characteristics.

SECTION 2.  As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement shall adopt rules necessary to implement Section 1701.352(b), Occupations Code, as amended by this Act.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.