

By: Miles

S.B. No. 71

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to law enforcement policies regarding the use of force by peace officers.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 2, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended by adding Article 2.33 to read as follows:

Art. 2.33. LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICY ON USE OF FORCE BY PEACE OFFICERS. (a) In this article, "law enforcement agency" means an agency of the state or an agency of a political subdivision of the state authorized by law to employ peace officers.

(b) Each law enforcement agency shall adopt a detailed written policy regarding the use of force by peace officers. The policy must provide peace officers employed by the agency with explicit guidelines for the use of force that ensure that force will only be used against a person in a manner proportionate to the threat posed by the person.

SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2022, each law enforcement agency in this state shall adopt the policy required by Article 2.33, Code of Criminal Procedure, as added by this Act.

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