

By: Thompson, Ward Johnson, et al.

H.B. No. 2756

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to training on de-escalation, crisis intervention, and  
3 behavioral health for correctional officers and certain other  
4 employees of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

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

6 SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the Jovian Motley Act.

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 493, Government Code, is amended by  
8 adding Section 493.0325 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 493.0325. CORRECTIONAL OFFICER TRAINING ON  
10 DE-ESCALATION, CRISIS INTERVENTION, AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH.

11 (a) This section applies to:

12 (1) a correctional officer employed by the department;

13 and

14 (2) a department employee responsible for the direct  
15 supervision of correctional officers described by Subdivision (1).

16 (b) To facilitate interaction with inmates, the department  
17 shall provide employees described by Subsection (a) training on:

18 (1) de-escalation and crisis intervention techniques;

19 and

20 (2) behavioral health.

21 (c) The training described by Subsection (b)(1) must  
22 include information regarding:

23 (1) effective communication;

24 (2) employing alternatives to physical restraints,

1 including the availability and proper use of tools such as shields,  
2 chemical dispensing devices, and less-lethal force weapons;

3 (3) techniques for limiting the use of force resulting  
4 in bodily injury;

5 (4) proper utilization of necessary resources,  
6 including lighting;

7 (5) safety techniques during cell extractions;

8 (6) fundamental lifesaving procedures; and

9 (7) necessary personnel involvement.

10 (d) The training described by Subsection (b)(2) must  
11 include information regarding:

12 (1) effective communication and intervention;

13 (2) increased awareness of persons with behavioral  
14 health concerns, substance use disorders, or intellectual and  
15 developmental disabilities;

16 (3) crisis recognition, prevention, and response;

17 (4) suicide risk and prevention; and

18 (5) access to employee assistance programs available  
19 to correctional officers.

20 (e) The training required by this section must be included  
21 in the department's preservice training for correctional officers  
22 and completed annually by employees described by Subsection (a).

23 SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
24 of this Act but not later than December 1, 2025, the Texas  
25 Department of Criminal Justice shall make the training required by  
26 Section 493.0325, Government Code, as added by this Act, available  
27 to the employees described by Subsection (a) of that section.

1 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.