

By: Giddings

H.B. No. 2684

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a model training curriculum and to the required training for school district peace officers and school resource officers.

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

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

Sec. 37.0812. TRAINING POLICY: SCHOOL DISTRICT PEACE OFFICERS AND SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS. A school district that commissions a school district peace officer or at which a school resource officer provides law enforcement shall adopt a policy requiring the officer to complete the education and training program required by Section 1701.263, Occupations Code.

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

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

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

(2) "Cultural competency" means an understanding of cultural differences and the way those differences affect human behavior.

(3) "Institute" means an institute dedicated to

1 providing training to law enforcement and the development of law
2 enforcement policies, such as the Law Enforcement Management
3 Institute of Texas at Sam Houston State University or the Caruth
4 Police Institute.

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

7 (5) "School resource officer" has the meaning assigned
8 by Section 1701.601.

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

13 (c) The curriculum developed under this section must
14 incorporate learning objectives regarding:

15 (1) child and adolescent development and psychology;

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

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

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

24 (5) mental health crisis intervention; and

25 (6) cultural competency.

26 (d) Before adopting and distributing any curriculum under
27 this section, the commission shall provide a 30-day period for

1 public comment.

2 (e) The commission shall provide the curriculum developed
3 under this section and any supplemental education materials created
4 for the curriculum to:

5 (1) school district police departments;

6 (2) law enforcement agencies that place peace officers
7 in a school as school resource officers under a memorandum of
8 understanding; and

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

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

14 Sec. 1701.263. EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL
15 DISTRICT PEACE OFFICERS AND SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS. (a) In this
16 section:

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

19 (2) "School resource officer" has the meaning assigned
20 by Section [1701.601](#).

21 (b) The commission by rule shall require a school district
22 peace officer or a school resource officer to successfully complete
23 an education and training program for school district peace
24 officers and school resource officers before or within 120 days of
25 the officer's commission by or placement in a school. The program
26 must:

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

1 (2) be approved by the commission; and

2 (3) provide training in accordance with the curriculum
3 developed under Section 1701.262 in each subject area listed in
4 Subsection (c) of that section.

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

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

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

20 (b) Not later than February 1, 2016, the Texas Commission on
21 Law Enforcement shall make available to school district peace
22 officers and school resource officers the training required by
23 Section 1701.263, Occupations Code, as added by this Act.

24 (c) Notwithstanding Section 1701.263(b), Occupations Code,
25 as added by this Act, a school district peace officer or school
26 resource officer who commences employment with a school district or
27 commences providing law enforcement at a school district on a date

1 occurring before February 1, 2016, shall complete the training
2 required by Section 1701.263, Occupations Code, as added by this
3 Act, as soon as practicable and not later than June 1, 2016.

4 (d) Not later than February 1, 2016, a school district shall
5 adopt the training policy for school district peace officers and
6 school resource officers required by Section 37.0812, Education
7 Code, as added by this Act.

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