

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 20, 2008

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 2, 2008

SENATE BILL

No. 1531

Introduced by Senators Correa, Alquist, and Steinberg

February 22, 2008

An act to add Section 13515.35 to the Penal Code, relating to peace officers.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1531, as amended, Correa. Peace officer training: autistic persons.

Existing law provides that the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training establish and keep updated various training programs to maintain the level of competence of various law enforcement officers.

This bill would, *upon the next regularly scheduled review of a training module relating to persons with disabilities*, require the commission; ~~by January 1, 2010~~, to create and make available on DVD and *authorize the commission to distribute* electronically a course on how to recognize and interact with ~~autistic~~ *persons with autistic spectrum disorders*. This course shall be designed for, and made available to, ~~Peace Officers~~ *peace officers* who are first responders. This bill would specify that the commission shall develop the course in consultation with designated entities, and distribute, as necessary, a training bulletin via the Internet to specified law enforcement agencies.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 13515.35 is added to the Penal Code, to
2 read:

3 13515.35. (a) The commission shall, ~~by January 1, 2010~~ *upon*
4 *the next regularly scheduled review of a training module relating*
5 *to persons with disabilities*, create and make available on DVD
6 and *may distribute* electronically a course on how to recognize
7 and interact with persons with autistic spectrum disorders. This
8 course shall be designed for, and made available to, ~~Peace Officers~~
9 *peace officers* who are first responders to emergency situations.

10 (b) The training course shall be developed by the commission
11 in consultation with the Department of Developmental Services
12 and appropriate community, local, or other state organizations and
13 agencies that have expertise in the area of autism spectrum
14 disorders. The commission shall make the course available to law
15 enforcement agencies in California.

16 (c) In addition to the duties contained in subdivisions (a) and
17 (b), the commission shall distribute, as necessary, a training bulletin
18 via the Internet to law enforcement agencies participating in the
19 commission's program on the topic of autism spectrum disorders.