

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 2, 2015
AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 15, 2015
AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 23, 2015
AMENDED IN SENATE FEBRUARY 26, 2015

SENATE BILL

No. 29

Introduced by Senator Beall
(Principal coauthor: Senator Mitchell)
(Coauthors: Senators Anderson, Hancock, Leno, Monning, and
Stone)
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chávez, Frazier, ~~and~~ *Low, and*
Maienschein)

December 1, 2014

An act to add Sections 13515.28 and 13515.29 to the Penal Code, relating to peace officer training standards.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 29, as amended, Beall. Peace officer training: mental health.

Existing law requires specified categories of law enforcement officers to meet training standards pursuant to courses of training certified by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). Existing law requires POST to include in its basic training course adequate instruction in the handling of persons with developmental disabilities or mental illness, or both. Existing law also requires POST to establish and keep updated a continuing education classroom training course relating to law enforcement interaction with developmentally disabled and mentally ill persons.

This bill would require POST to require field training officers who are instructors for the field training program to have ~~40~~ 20 hours of

promising or evidence-based behavioral health training, as specified. The bill would also require POST to require as part of its field training program 20 hours of field training relating to law enforcement interaction with persons with mental illness or intellectual disability, to be completed as specified.

By requiring local law enforcement field training officers to have ~~40~~ 20 additional hours of training and imposing additional training costs on local law enforcement agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 13515.28 is added to the Penal Code, to
 2 read:

3 13515.28. (a) (1) The Commission on Peace Officer Standards
 4 and Training shall require the field training officers who provide
 5 instruction in the field training program to have ~~40~~ 20 hours of
 6 promising or evidence-based behavioral health training to
 7 deescalate a situation where an officer is interacting with persons
 8 with mental illness or intellectual disability.

9 (2) If an officer has completed ~~40~~ 20 hours of promising or
 10 evidence-based behavioral health training, the requirement
 11 described in paragraph (1) shall not apply. Instead, the officer is
 12 strongly encouraged to take a four-hour behavioral health refresher
 13 course.

14 (b) This promising or evidence-based behavioral health training
 15 course shall address issues relating to stigma, shall be culturally
 16 relevant and appropriate, and shall include all of the following
 17 topics:

18 (1) The cause and nature of mental illnesses and intellectual
 19 disabilities.

1 (2) (A) How to identify indicators of mental illness, intellectual
2 disability, and substance use disorders.

3 (B) How to distinguish between mental illness, intellectual
4 disability, and substance use disorders.

5 (C) How to respond appropriately in a variety of situations
6 involving persons with mental illness, intellectual disability, and
7 substance use disorders.

8 (3) Conflict resolution and deescalation techniques for
9 potentially dangerous situations.

10 (4) Appropriate language usage when interacting with potentially
11 emotionally distressed persons.

12 (5) Community and state resources available to serve persons
13 with mental illness or intellectual disability, and how these
14 resources can be best utilized by law enforcement.

15 (6) The perspective of individuals and families with lived
16 experiences with persons with mental illness, intellectual disability,
17 and substance use disorders.

18 SEC. 2. Section 13515.29 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

19 13515.29. The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and
20 Training shall require as part of its *existing* field training program
21 20 hours of field training relating to law enforcement interaction
22 with persons with mental illness or intellectual disability to be
23 completed during the employing department's field training and
24 probationary period.

25 SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
26 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
27 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
28 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
29 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.