

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 8, 2015

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, Low, and Maienschein)

December 1, 2014

An act to add Sections ~~13515.28 and 13515.29~~ *13515.28, 13515.29, and 13515.295* 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 ~~20 hours of promising or evidence-based behavioral health training~~, *at least 8 hours of crisis intervention training related to behavioral health*, 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~~, *existing field training officer course, at least 4 hours of training relating to competencies of the field training program and police training program that addresses how to interact with persons with mental illness or intellectual disability*, to be completed as specified.

By requiring local law enforcement field training officers to have ~~20~~ *at least 8* 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~~ *commission* shall require the field training officers
5 who provide instruction in the field training program to have ~~20~~
6 ~~hours of promising or evidence-based behavioral health training~~
7 *at least eight hours of crisis intervention classroom training and*
8 *instructor-led active learning, such as scenario-based training,*
9 *relating to behavioral health to deescalate a situation where an*
10 ~~officer is interacting~~ *better train new peace officers how to*
11 *effectively interact* with persons with mental illness or intellectual

1 disability. *This course shall be taught in segments that are at least*
2 *four hours long.*

3 (2) ~~If an a field training officer has completed 20 eight hours~~
4 ~~of promising or evidence-based crisis intervention behavioral~~
5 ~~health training, the requirement described in paragraph (1) shall~~
6 ~~not apply. Instead, the officer is strongly encouraged to take a~~
7 ~~four-hour behavioral health refresher course. apply if the field~~
8 ~~training officer has already completed such a crisis intervention~~
9 ~~behavioral health training course within the past 24 months.~~

10 (b) ~~This promising or evidence-based behavioral health crisis~~
11 ~~intervention training course shall address issues relating to stigma,~~
12 ~~shall be culturally relevant and appropriate, and shall include all~~
13 ~~of the following topics:~~

14 (1) The cause and nature of mental illnesses and intellectual
15 disabilities.

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

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

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

23 (3) Conflict resolution and deescalation techniques for
24 potentially dangerous situations.

25 (4) Appropriate language usage when interacting with potentially
26 emotionally distressed persons.

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

30 (6) ~~The perspective of individuals and or families with lived~~
31 ~~who have experiences with persons with mental illness, intellectual~~
32 ~~disability, and substance use disorders.~~

33 (c) *Field training officers assigned or appointed before January*
34 *1, 2017, shall complete the crisis intervention course by June 30,*
35 *2017. Field training officers assigned or appointed on or after*
36 *January 1, 2017, shall complete the crisis intervention course*
37 *within 180 days of assignment or appointment.*

38 (d) *Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent an*
39 *agency from requiring its field training officers to complete a crisis*

1 *intervention course with additional hours or earlier than as*
2 *required by this section.*

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

4 ~~13515.29. The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and~~
5 ~~Training shall require as part of its existing field training program~~
6 ~~20 hours of field training relating to law enforcement interaction~~
7 ~~with persons with mental illness or intellectual disability to be~~
8 ~~completed during the employing department's field training and~~
9 ~~probationary period.~~

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

11 *13515.29. (a) The commission shall establish and keep updated*
12 *a field training officer course relating to competencies of the field*
13 *training program and police training program that addresses how*
14 *to interact with persons with mental illness or intellectual*
15 *disability.*

16 *(b) This course shall consist of at least four hours of classroom*
17 *instruction and instructor-led active learning, such as*
18 *scenario-based training, shall address issues related to stigma,*
19 *and shall be culturally relevant and appropriate.*

20 *(c) All prospective field training officers shall complete the*
21 *course described in subdivisions (a) and (b) as part of the existing*
22 *field training officer program.*

23 *(d) The commission shall implement the provisions of this*
24 *section on or before August 1, 2016.*

25 *SEC. 3. Section 13515.295 is added to the Penal Code, to read:*

26 *13515.295. (a) The commission shall, by May 1, 2016, conduct*
27 *a review and evaluation of the required competencies of the field*
28 *training program and police training program to identify areas*
29 *where additional training is necessary to better prepare law*
30 *enforcement officers to effectively address incidents involving*
31 *persons with a mental illness or intellectual disability.*

32 *(b) Upon identifying what additional training is needed, the*
33 *commission shall update the training in consultation with*
34 *appropriate community, local, and state organizations, and*
35 *agencies that have expertise in the area of mental illness,*
36 *intellectual disabilities, and substance abuse disorders, and with*
37 *appropriate consumer and family advocate groups.*

38 *(c) The training shall address issues related to stigma, shall be*
39 *culturally relevant and appropriate, and shall include all of the*
40 *following topics:*

1 (1) *How to identify indicators of mental illness, intellectual*
2 *disability, substance use disorders, neurological disorders,*
3 *traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, and*
4 *dementia.*

5 (2) *Autism spectrum disorder.*

6 (3) *Down syndrome.*

7 (4) *Conflict resolution and deescalation techniques for*
8 *potentially dangerous situations.*

9 (5) *Alternatives to the use of force when interacting with*
10 *potentially dangerous persons with mental illness or intellectual*
11 *disabilities.*

12 (6) *The perspective of individuals or families who have*
13 *experiences with persons with mental illness, intellectual disability,*
14 *and substance use disorders.*

15 (7) *Involuntary holds.*

16 (8) *Community and state resources available to serve persons*
17 *with mental illness or intellectual disability, and how these*
18 *resources can be best utilized by law enforcement.*

19 ~~SEC. 3.~~

20 *SEC. 4.* If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
21 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
22 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
23 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
24 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.