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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPECIAL SESSION

H. F. No. 51

06/12/2020 Authored by Richardson, Hansen, Davnie, Hausman, Moran and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy Division

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; requiring the development and implementation of autism
1.3 training for peace officers; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law
1.4 in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 626.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. 626.8474 AUTISM TRAINING.

1.7 Subdivision 1. Learning objectives required. (a) By January 1, 2021, the board shall
1.8 prepare learning objectives for preservice and in-service training on ensuring safer
1.9 interactions between peace officers and persons with autism. At a minimum, the objectives
1.10 must address the following:

- 1.11 (1) autism overview and behavioral understanding;
1.12 (2) best practices for interventions and de-escalation strategies;
1.13 (3) prevention and crisis reduction models; and
1.14 (4) objective review of tools and technology available.

1.15 (b) In developing the learning objectives, the board shall consult with, at a minimum:

- 1.16 (1) individuals with autism;
1.17 (2) family members of individuals with autism;
1.18 (3) autism experts; and
1.19 (4) peace officers.

2.1 Subd. 2. **Preservice training required.** (a) The learning objectives developed pursuant
2.2 to subdivision 1 must be included in the required curriculum of professional peace officer
2.3 educational programs.

2.4 (b) A person is not eligible to take the peace officer licensing examination after July 1,
2.5 2021, unless the individual has received the training described in paragraph (a).

2.6 Subd. 3. **In-service training required.** Beginning July 1, 2021, the chief law enforcement
2.7 officer of every state and local law enforcement agency shall provide in-service autism
2.8 training to every peace officer and part-time peace officer employed by the agency. The
2.9 training must comply with the learning objectives developed and approved by the board
2.10 and must meet board requirements for board-approved continuing education credit. The
2.11 training must consist of at least four continuing education credits within an officer's three-year
2.12 licensing cycle. Each peace officer with a license renewal date after June 30, 2021, is not
2.13 required to complete this training until the officer's next full three-year licensing cycle.

2.14 Subd. 4. **Record keeping required.** The head of every local and state law enforcement
2.15 agency shall maintain written records of the agency's compliance with the requirements of
2.16 subdivision 3. The documentation is subject to periodic review by the board, and must be
2.17 made available to the board at its request.

2.18 Subd. 5. **Licensing sanctions; injunctive relief.** The board may impose licensing
2.19 sanctions and seek injunctive relief under section 214.11 for failure to comply with the
2.20 requirements of this section.

2.21 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

2.22 \$..... is appropriated from the general fund to the Peace Officer Standards and Training
2.23 (POST) Board for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, to implement section 1.