

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2016 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
 First Reader

House Bill 292
 Judiciary

(Delegate B. Robinson, *et al.*)

Police Training Commission - Training Requirements - Human Trafficking

This bill requires the Police Training Commission (PTC) to expand the curriculum and the minimum courses of study of police training conducted by police training schools to include special training, attention to, and study of the application and enforcement of the criminal laws concerning human trafficking and the appropriate treatment of victims of human trafficking, including (1) how to identify victims of human trafficking; (2) the necessity of treating victims of human trafficking as crime victims rather than criminals; (3) how to promote the safety of victims of human trafficking; and (4) the resources available to meet the needs of victims of human trafficking.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures increase by approximately \$4,500 in FY 2017 only for PTC to update its training curriculum. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	4,500	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$4,500)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: Potential minimal increase in local expenditures for some jurisdictions to incorporate the bill’s training requirements into their training programs. Local revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal or none.

Analysis

Current Law: PTC, within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, was created in 1966 and is chaired by the Superintendent of State Police. It operates approved police training schools and prescribes standards for and certifies schools that offer police and security training. In consultation and cooperation with various entities, it also sets minimum qualifications for instructors and certifies qualified instructors for approved training schools.

PTC certifies persons as police officers who have met commission standards. An individual who is not satisfactorily trained in the 12-month probationary period may not be employed as a police officer, and a police officer may not serve after certification has been revoked, suspended, or allowed to lapse.

PTC requires, for entrance-level police training and at least every three years for in-service level police training conducted by the State and each county and municipal police training school, that the curriculum and minimum courses of study include special training, attention to, and study of the application and enforcement of (1) the criminal laws concerning rape and sexual offenses, including the sexual abuse and exploitation of children and related evidentiary procedures; (2) the contact with and treatment of victims of crimes and delinquent acts; (3) the notices, services, support, and rights available to victims and victims' representatives under State law; and (4) the notification of victims of identity fraud and related crimes of their rights under federal law. PTC also requires, for entrance-level police training and annually for in-service level police conducted by the State and each county and municipal police training school, that the curriculum and minimum courses of study include special training in the proper use of electronic control devices for specified police officers, consistent with established law enforcement standards and constitutional provisions.

PTC further requires, for entrance-level police training and, as determined by PTC, for in-service level training conducted by the State and each county and municipal police training school, that the curriculum and minimum courses of study include, consistent with established law enforcement standards and federal and State constitutional provisions (1) training in lifesaving techniques, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation; (2) training in the proper level and use of force; (3) training regarding sensitivity to cultural and gender diversity; and (4) training regarding individuals with physical, intellectual, developmental, and psychiatric disabilities.

Background: Training for the certification of law enforcement officers in the State may be conducted at PTC facilities or at any of 20 police training academies in the State certified by PTC. There are approximately 16,000 certified police officers in Maryland.

State Expenditures: PTC advises that although training objectives relating to human trafficking are included in the existing entry-level training for police officers, the bill requires a curriculum update. Updating the PTC training curriculum requires the assistance of a curriculum specialist, resulting in an increase in general fund expenditures of approximately \$4,500 in fiscal 2017 only.

Training adaptations for the Department of State Police can be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Expenditures: The various local government agencies that conduct police entrance-level training and in-service training may need to modify existing training programs to meet the bill's requirements. Some local governments can modify their training programs with existing resources, while others may incur some additional minimal costs. For example, Prince George's County advises that its training academy regularly updates its curriculum, which already meets the bill's requirements.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: SB 819 of 2014, a similar bill, received an unfavorable report from the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee. Its cross file, HB 608, received an unfavorable report from the House Judiciary Committee. HB 1056 of 2013, another similar bill, received an unfavorable report from the House Judiciary Committee.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's, Talbot, and Washington counties; Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention; Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Department of State Police; Department of Legislative Services

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