

HOUSE BILL NO. 2365

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE RHOADS.

6151H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 590, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to privileged communications between peer support group counselors and law enforcement personnel.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 590, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 590.1040, to read as follows:

590.1040. 1. A peer support counselor who obtains information from an officer by reason of the counselor's capacity as a peer support group counselor shall not be allowed, in giving testimony, to disclose any confidential communication properly entrusted to the counselor by the officer while receiving counseling.

2. The prohibition in this subsection shall not apply where the officer has consented to the disclosure of the information specified in subsection 1 of this section or where the peer support group counselor was an initial responding officer, a witness, or a party to the incident which prompted the delivery of peer support group counseling services to the officer.

3. For purposes of this section, "officer" means any peace officer certified under this chapter or any civilian employee of a law enforcement agency. "Peer support group counselor" means a law enforcement officer or a civilian employee of a law enforcement agency who has been designated as a peer support group counselor by a sheriff, police chief, or department head of a law enforcement agency and who has received training to provide emotional and moral support and counseling to an officer who needs those services as a result of an incident in which the officer was involved while acting in the officer's official capacity.

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EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.