

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FINAL BILL ANALYSIS**

BILL #: CS/HB 201

FINAL HOUSE FLOOR ACTION:

SPONSOR(S): Criminal Justice Subcommittee;
Narain and others

117 **Y's**

1 **N's**

**COMPANION
BILLS:** CS/SB 746

GOVERNOR'S ACTION: Pending

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

CS/HB 201 passed the House on April 22, 2015, and subsequently passed the Senate on April 23, 2015.

The Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC), housed within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), establishes uniform minimum standards for the employment and training of full-time, part-time, and auxiliary law enforcement officers (LEOs). Currently, every prospective LEO must meet the minimum qualifications outlined in s. 943.13, F.S., successfully complete a CJSTC-developed Basic Recruit Training Program, and pass a statewide certification examination in order to receive their certification.

In order to maintain their certification, LEOs must satisfy the continuing training and education requirements of s. 943.135, F.S. This statute requires LEOs, as a condition of continued employment, to receive periodic CJSTC-approved training or education at the rate of 40 hours every 4 years.

Florida law currently requires CJSTC to establish continued employment training related to specified topics (e.g., topics related to community policing, interpersonal skills relating to diverse populations, and juvenile sexual offender investigations). This training counts toward the 40 hours of required instruction for continued employment. Florida law does not currently require CJSTC to establish continued employment training related to diabetic emergencies.

The bill creates s. 943.1726, F.S., which requires FDLE to establish an online continued employment training component relating to diabetic emergencies. Instruction must include, but is not limited to, recognition of symptoms of such an emergency, distinguishing such an emergency from alcohol intoxication or drug overdose, and appropriate first aid for such an emergency. The bill specifies that completion of the training component may count toward the 40 hours of required instruction for continued employment or appointment as a LEO.

FDLE reports that the bill will not have a fiscal impact on the Department.

Subject to the Governor's veto powers, the bill is effective October 1, 2015.

I. SUBSTANTIVE INFORMATION

A. EFFECT OF CHANGES:

Current Situation

Law Enforcement Officer - Basic Recruit Training Program

The Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC), housed within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), establishes uniform minimum standards for the employment and training of full-time, part-time, and auxiliary law enforcement officers (LEOs). Currently, every prospective LEO must meet the minimum qualifications outlined in s. 943.13, F.S., successfully complete a CJSTC-developed Basic Recruit Training Program, and pass a statewide certification examination in order to receive their certification.¹

Sections 943.171 through 943.17296, F.S., require CJSTC to include instruction on a number of specific topics into a LEO Basic Recruit Training Program curriculum (e.g., topics related to victim assistance, juvenile sexual offender investigations, elder abuse and neglect, etc.). Although instruction on diabetic emergencies is not currently required by statute, FDLE states that this training is currently being provided.²

Law Enforcement Officer - Continuing Training & Education

In order to maintain their certification, LEOs must also satisfy the continuing training and education requirements of s. 943.135, F.S. This statute requires LEOs, as a condition of continued employment or appointment, to receive periodic CJSTC-approved continuing training or education at the rate of 40 hours every 4 years.³ The employing agency must document that the continuing training or education is job-related and consistent with the needs of the employing agency, and must maintain and submit the documentation to CJSTC.⁴

Similar to the Basic Recruit Training Program, Florida law requires CJSTC to establish continued employment training related to specified topics (e.g., topics related to community policing, interpersonal skills relating to diverse populations, and juvenile sexual offender investigations).⁵ This training counts toward the 40 hours of required instruction for continued employment.⁶

Currently, Florida law does not require CJSTC to establish continued employment training related to diabetic emergencies.

Effect of the Bill

The bill creates s. 943.1726, F.S., which requires FDLE to establish an online continued employment training component relating to diabetic emergencies. Instruction must include, but is not limited to, recognition of symptoms of such an emergency, distinguishing such an emergency from alcohol intoxication or drug overdose, and appropriate first aid for such an emergency. The bill specifies that completion of the training component may count toward the 40 hours of required instruction for continued employment or appointment as a LEO.

¹ s. 943.13, F.S.

² FDLE Analysis of HB 201, January 16, 2015 (on file with the Criminal Justice Subcommittee).

³ s. 943.135(1), F.S.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ ss. 943.1729, 943.1716, and 943.17295, F.S.

⁶ *Id.*

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

The bill does not appear to have any impact on state revenues.

2. Expenditures:

FDLE reports that the bill will not have a fiscal impact on the Department.⁷

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

The bill does not appear to have any impact on local government revenues.

2. Expenditures:

The bill does not appear to have any impact on local government expenditures.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

⁷ E-mail from Ron Draa, FDLE's Legislative Affairs Director, March 5, 2015 (on file with the Criminal Justice Subcommittee).