

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB2977

Introduced 2/16/2023, by Rep. Adam M. Niemerg

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

735 ILCS 5/8-803.1 new

Amends the Privileged Communications Part of the Evidence Article of the Code of Civil Procedure. Provides that a peer support advisor shall not be compelled to disclose in any court, or to any administrative board or agency, or to any public officer, a confession or admission made to him or her within his or her capacity as a peer support advisor, nor be compelled to divulge any information which has been obtained by him or her in his or her capacity as a peer support advisor. Includes legislative findings.

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AN ACT concerning civil law.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 1. Legislative findings. It has been found by the 5 General Assembly of the State of Illinois that having healthy 6 police officers is an asset to communities throughout Illinois 7 and therefore, in an effort to support wellness of these 8 officers, both active and retired, we hereby create the status 9 of peer support advisor.

Section 5. The Code of Civil Procedure is amended by adding Section 8-803.1 as follows:

12 (735 ILCS 5/8-803.1 new)

Sec. 8-803.1. Peer support advisor. A peer support advisor shall not be compelled to disclose in any court, or to any administrative board or agency, or to any public officer, a confession or admission made to him or her within his or her capacity as a peer support advisor, nor be compelled to divulge any information which has been obtained by him or her in his or her capacity as a peer support advisor.

As used in this Section, "peer support advisor" means an employee, approved by the law enforcement agency or the emergency provider, who voluntarily provides confidential HB2977 - 2 - LRB103 29609 LNS 56004 b

- 1 <u>support and assistance to fellow employees experiencing</u>
- 2 personal or professional problems. An emergency services
- 3 provider or law enforcement agency shall provide peer support
- 4 advisors with an appropriate level of training in counseling
- 5 to provide emotional and moral support.