



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

SB1543

Introduced 2/8/2023, by Sen. Bill Cunningham

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

50 ILCS 705/3.2 new

Amends the Illinois Police Training Act. Creates under the authority of the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board the Statewide PTSD Mental Health Coordinator, appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, for a term of 4 years. Provides that the Statewide PTSD Mental Health Coordinator shall receive a salary as provided by law and is eligible for reappointment. Provides that the Statewide PTSD Mental Health Coordinator shall be responsible for implementing a program of mental health support and education for law enforcement officers. Establishes qualifications for the Coordinator. Provides that the Statewide PTSD Mental Health Coordinator shall report to the Board on the development and implementation of programs and training for law enforcement officers and shall advise the Board and receive advice from the Board on direction and training needs for law enforcement agencies that vary in size, location, and demographics.

LRB103 26944 AWJ 53309 b

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

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

4 Section 5. The Illinois Police Training Act is amended by
5 adding Section 3.2 as follows:

6 (50 ILCS 705/3.2 new)

7 Sec. 3.2. Statewide PTSD Mental Health Coordinator.

8 (a) There is created under the authority of the Illinois
9 Law Enforcement Training Standards Board the Statewide PTSD
10 Mental Health Coordinator, appointed by the Governor, by and
11 with the advice and consent of the Senate, for a term of 4
12 years. The Statewide PTSD Mental Health Coordinator shall
13 receive a salary as provided by law and is eligible for
14 reappointment. The Statewide PTSD Mental Health Coordinator
15 shall be responsible for implementing a program of mental
16 health support and education for law enforcement officers.

17 (b) The Statewide PTSD Mental Health Coordinator shall:

18 (1) be an active duty law enforcement officer with an
19 established career in different aspects of law
20 enforcement, including, but not limited to, having
21 experience as both a patrol officer and detective or in
22 both urban and rural settings;

23 (2) have a history of developing and disseminating

1 evidence-based training in mental health and resilience
2 and with a strong working knowledge of the legislative
3 process at the State and local level; and

4 (3) have an established history of working with police
5 administrations and police unions.

6 (c) The Statewide PTSD Mental Health Coordinator shall:

7 (1) cooperate with statewide police academies to
8 introduce police recruits to mental health issues they
9 could face throughout their career in law enforcement;

10 (2) assist in establishing mental health training for
11 law enforcement, including resilience training,
12 trauma-based training, interdepartmental and
13 intradepartmental training, and training for law
14 enforcement families;

15 (3) select medical professionals statewide to
16 establish a reference list that can be utilized by police
17 departments who seek out professionals who offer
18 evidence-based treatment for trauma and have strong
19 working knowledge of the challenges faced by law
20 enforcement;

21 (4) cooperate with police agencies to establish peer
22 support programs;

23 (5) cooperate with private limited liability companies
24 who train in mental health and wellness to ensure that the
25 company programs are scientifically sound and factual;

26 (6) utilize the State university system to establish

1 training and produce research documentation of training
2 effectiveness; and

3 (7) set standards for continuing education in mental
4 health with an emphasis on meeting the developmental
5 training needs for officers at various stages of their
6 career.

7 (d) The Statewide PTSD Mental Health Coordinator shall
8 report to the Board on the development and implementation of
9 programs and training for law enforcement officers and shall
10 advise the Board and receive advice from the Board on
11 direction and training needs for law enforcement agencies that
12 vary in size, location, and demographics.