



97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB5730

Introduced 2/16/2012, by Rep. Mary E. Flowers

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Police Sensitivity Task Force Act. Provides that the Task Force shall: (1) investigate instances of racial disparity related to traffic stops; (2) obtain testimony from persons who believed that they were victims of racial disparity in traffic stops and from law enforcement officers; (3) study past practices relating to traffic stops; and (4) make recommendations to the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board for suggested revisions to existing racial sensitivity curriculum, and to municipal, county, and State law enforcement agencies to address the problem of racial disparity related to traffic stops. Provides that the Task Force shall hold public hearings and shall issue a written report of its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before January 1, 2014; and that upon filing its report the Task Force is dissolved.

LRB097 18979 RLC 64218 b

1 AN ACT concerning police procedure.

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

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Police
5 Sensitivity Task Force Act.

6 Section 5. Purposes.

7 (a) The General Assembly acknowledges that the 2010 Traffic
8 Stop Statistics Report prepared by the Illinois Department of
9 Transportation indicates that the number of vehicle stops has
10 declined in recent years but the number of consent searches
11 performed and citations issued to minorities has increased.

12 (b) The General Assembly acknowledges that minorities
13 typically experience intimidation to allow law enforcement
14 officers to search their vehicles, trunk space, containers, and
15 person, because of the authoritative relationship displayed by
16 police.

17 (c) The General Assembly acknowledges that although
18 consent searches have proven to be very useful tools in
19 reducing the availability of prohibited items such as guns and
20 drugs, the Illinois Department of Transportation report
21 indicates that a disparity exists and more specifically, that
22 police officers misinterpret signs of suspicion in minorities
23 more than they do for Caucasians.

1 (d) Leaders within the law enforcement community have
2 recognized that the stop, question, and search process has
3 created a problem of public trust and undermines police
4 legitimacy.

5 (e) Existing policies regarding consent searches are
6 inconsistent among law enforcement agencies and fail to address
7 all elements of the stop and search process.

8 (f) The General Assembly acknowledges that the key to
9 achieving policing policies based on mutual respect,
10 neutrality, and trust between the officers and the citizens
11 they detain is the elimination of bias, discrimination, and
12 incompetence with law enforcement.

13 (g) The General Assembly believes that a Task Force should
14 be created to investigate instances of racial disparity related
15 to traffic stops and make recommendations concerning the
16 revision of racial sensitivity curriculum offered by police
17 training academies.

18 Section 10. Police Sensitivity Task Force.

19 (a) The Police Sensitivity Task Force (hereinafter
20 referred to as the Task Force) is created and shall be composed
21 of the following members who shall serve without compensation
22 for their service as members of the Task Force:

23 (1) two members of the House of Representatives
24 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

25 (2) two members of the House of Representatives

1 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
2 Representatives;

3 (3) two members of the Senate appointed by the
4 President of the Senate;

5 (4) two members of the Senate appointed by the Minority
6 Leader of the Senate;

7 (5) the Executive Director of the Illinois Law
8 Enforcement Training Standards Board or his or her
9 designee;

10 (6) the Director of State Police or his or her
11 designee;

12 (7) the Chairperson of the Illinois Human Rights
13 Commission;

14 (8) The Superintendent of the Chicago Police
15 Department or his or her designee;

16 (9) the Sheriff of Cook County or his or her designee;

17 (10) a university professor teaching in the field of
18 law enforcement appointed by the Speaker of the House of
19 Representatives; and

20 (11) a university professor teaching in the field of
21 law enforcement appointed by the President of the Senate.

22 (b) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the
23 House of Representatives shall each appoint a joint chair to
24 the Task Force.

25 (c) The Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board
26 shall provide administrative support to the Task Force.

1 (d) The Task Force shall:

2 (1) investigate instances of racial disparity related
3 to traffic stops;

4 (2) obtain testimony from persons who believed that
5 they were victims of racial disparity in traffic stops and
6 from law enforcement officers;

7 (3) study past practices relating to traffic stops; and

8 (4) make recommendations to the Illinois Law
9 Enforcement Training Standards Board for suggested
10 revisions to existing racial sensitivity curriculum, and
11 to municipal, county, and State law enforcement agencies to
12 address the problem of racial disparity related to traffic
13 stops.

14 (e) The Task Force shall hold public hearings and shall
15 issue a written report of its findings and recommendations to
16 the General Assembly on or before January 1, 2014; and that
17 upon filing its report the Task Force is dissolved.