



98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2013 and 2014

HB5688

by Rep. Kelly Burke

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Law Enforcement Officer Bulletproof Vest Act. Provides that each law enforcement agency within the State shall provide a bulletproof vest for every law enforcement officer of that agency who is employed as a new recruit by that agency on or after the effective date of the Act as part of the officer's initial equipment issue. Provides that each bulletproof vest shall be replaced before the expiration of the warranty period of the vest at the expense of the law enforcement agency. Provides that all officer bulletproof vests shall be replaced by the law enforcement agency within a 4-year period after the effective date of the Act. Provides that the State or unit of local government which has jurisdiction over the law enforcement agency shall apply to the United States Department of Justice under the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998 or a successor Act for matching grants of one-half the purchase price of the bulletproof vests for the officers of the law enforcement agency. Provides that if the law enforcement agency is a local law enforcement agency and not a State agency, one-half the costs of purchasing the bulletproof vests shall be from State funds and one-half from the funds of the unit of local government, including the matching grants received from the United States Department of Justice. Provides that the Act does not apply if United States Department of Justice and State matching funds are not available or if the law enforcement agency collectively bargains with its officers or the exclusive representative of the officers for allowances to purchase bulletproof vests.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES
ACT MAY REQUIRE
REIMBURSEMENT

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning law enforcement officers.

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 Law
5 Enforcement Officer Bulletproof Vest Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. As used in this Act:

7 "Armor vest" or "bulletproof vest" means body armor, no
8 less than Type I, which has been tested through the voluntary
9 compliance testing program operated by the National Law
10 Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center of the National
11 Institute of Justice, and found to meet or exceed the
12 requirements of National Institute of Justice Standard
13 0101.03, or any subsequent revision of that standard.

14 "Law enforcement agency" means an agency of this State or
15 unit of local government which is vested by law or ordinance
16 with the duty to maintain public order and to enforce criminal
17 laws or ordinances.

18 "Law enforcement officer" means any officer, agent, or
19 employee of this State or a unit of local government authorized
20 by law or by a government agency to engage in or supervise the
21 prevention, detection, or investigation of any violation of
22 criminal law, or authorized by law to supervise sentenced
23 criminal offenders.

1 "Recruit" means any full-time or part-time law enforcement
2 officer or full-time county corrections officer who is enrolled
3 in an approved training course.

4 Section 10. Law enforcement agencies to provide
5 bulletproof vests for officers.

6 (a) Each law enforcement agency within this State shall
7 provide a bulletproof vest for every law enforcement officer of
8 that agency who is employed as a new recruit by that agency on
9 or after the effective date of this Act as part of the
10 officer's initial equipment issue.

11 (b) Each bulletproof vest shall be replaced before the
12 expiration of the warranty period of the vest at the expense of
13 the law enforcement agency.

14 (c) All officer bulletproof vests shall be replaced by the
15 law enforcement agency within a 4-year period after the
16 effective date of this Act.

17 (d) The State or unit of local government which has
18 jurisdiction over the law enforcement agency shall apply to the
19 United States Department of Justice under the Bulletproof Vest
20 Partnership Grant Act of 1998 or a successor Act for matching
21 grants of one-half the purchase price of the bulletproof vests
22 for the officers of the law enforcement agency.

23 (e) If the law enforcement agency is a local law
24 enforcement agency and not a State agency, one-half the costs
25 of purchasing the bulletproof vests shall be from State funds

1 and one-half from the funds of the unit of local government,
2 including the matching grants received from the United States
3 Department of Justice.

4 Section 15. Exemptions. This Act does not apply if United
5 States Department of Justice and State matching funds are not
6 available or if the law enforcement agency collectively
7 bargains with its officers or the exclusive representative of
8 the officers for allowances to purchase bulletproof vests.