

SPECIAL NEEDS TRAINING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

AMENDMENTS

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Steve Eliason

Senate Sponsor: Daniel W. Thatcher

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill requires peace officer training to include training on autism spectrum disorder and other mental illnesses.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

requires that peace officers have training in intervention responses to autism spectrum disorder and other mental illnesses.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53-6-202, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Fifth Special Session, Chapter 6

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53-6-202** is amended to read:

53-6-202. Basic training course -- Completion required -- Annual training -- Prohibition from exercising powers -- Reinstatement.



- 28 (1) (a) The director shall:
- 29 (i) (A) suggest and prepare subject material; and
- 30 (B) schedule instructors for basic training courses; or
- 31 (ii) review the material and instructor choices submitted by a certified academy.
- 32 (b) The subject material, instructors, and schedules shall be approved or disapproved
- 33 by a majority vote of the council.
- 34 (2) The materials shall be reviewed and approved by the council on or before July 1st
- 35 of each year and may from time to time be changed or amended by majority vote of the council.
- 36 (3) The basic training in a certified academy:
- 37 (a) shall be appropriate for the basic training of peace officers in the techniques of law
- 38 enforcement in the discretion of the director; and
- 39 (b) may not include the use of chokeholds, carotid restraints, or any act that impedes
- 40 the breathing or circulation of blood likely to produce a loss of consciousness, as a valid
- 41 method of restraint.
- 42 (4) (a) All peace officers [~~must~~] shall satisfactorily complete the basic training course
- 43 or the waiver process provided for in this chapter as well as annual certified training of not less
- 44 than 40 hours as the director, with the advice and consent of the council, directs.
- 45 (b) A peace officer who fails to satisfactorily complete the annual training shall
- 46 automatically be prohibited from exercising peace officer powers until any deficiency is made
- 47 up.
- 48 (5) The director shall ensure that annual training covers intervention responses for
- 49 autism spectrum disorder and other mental illnesses.