

1 Introduced by the Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs

2 Date:

3 Subject: Internal security and public safety; Vermont Criminal Justice Council;
4 law enforcement officer training

5 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to repeal the
6 fixed hours of training required for fair and impartial policing training and
7 require the Vermont Criminal Justice Council to report by January 15, 2024,
8 on its efforts to update and implement fair and impartial policing training. It
9 will repeal the Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement training
10 requirements and direct the Vermont Criminal Justice Council to adopt rules
11 pertaining to Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement training
12 requirements. The bill will require law enforcement agencies to collect data
13 for the date, time, and location of roadside stops. It will require an executive
14 law enforcement officer when hiring a law enforcement officer to contact all of
15 the applicant's former law enforcement agencies. The bill will extend the
16 deadline for the Vermont Criminal Justice Council to adopt rules regarding
17 alternate routes to law enforcement officer certification.

18 An act relating to Vermont Criminal Justice Council recommendations for
19 law enforcement officer training

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 * * * Fair and Impartial Policing Training; Advanced Roadside Impaired

3 Driving Enforcement Training * * *

4 Sec. 1. PURPOSE

5 The purpose of this act is, in part, to amend the laws of Vermont regarding
6 law enforcement officer training to emphasize achieving increased competency
7 over prescribed minimum hours of training in fair and impartial policing. The
8 change to a focus on skills and competency is meant to align with the goals of
9 increasing transparency and accountability to historically stigmatized
10 communities.

11 Sec. 2. 20 V.S.A. § 2358 is amended to read:

12 § 2358. MINIMUM TRAINING STANDARDS; DEFINITIONS

13 * * *

14 (e)(1) The criteria for all minimum training standards under this section
15 shall include anti-bias training approved by the Vermont Criminal Justice
16 Council and training on the State, county, or municipal law enforcement
17 agency's fair and impartial policing policy, adopted pursuant to subsection
18 2366(a) of this title.

19 (2) ~~On or before December 31, 2018, law enforcement officers shall~~
20 ~~receive a minimum of four hours of training as required by this subsection.~~

21 [Repealed.]

1 Sec. 4. 20 V.S.A. § 2355 is amended to read:

2 § 2355. COUNCIL POWERS AND DUTIES

3 (a) The Council shall adopt rules with respect to:

4 * * *

5 (13) Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement training
6 programs and requirements for Levels I, II, and III law enforcement
7 certification, including minimum hours of training, prerequisites, and time
8 periods for completion.

9 * * *

10 * * * Roadside Stop Data Collection * * *

11 Sec. 5. 20 V.S.A. § 2366 is amended to read:

12 § 2366. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES; FAIR AND IMPARTIAL
13 POLICING POLICY; RACE DATA COLLECTION

14 * * *

15 (e)(1) On or before September 1, 2014, every State, county, and municipal
16 law enforcement agency shall collect roadside stop data consisting of the
17 following:

18 (A) the age, gender, and race of the driver;

19 (B) the grounds for the stop;

20 (C) the grounds for the search and the type of search conducted, if

21 any;

- 1 (D) the evidence located, if any;
- 2 (E) the date, time, and location of the stop; and
- 3 (F) the outcome of the stop, including whether physical force was
- 4 employed or threatened during the stop; and, if so, the type of force employed
- 5 and whether the force resulted in bodily injury or death, and whether:

6 * * *

7 * * * Duty to Contact Current or Former Agencies When Hiring Law

8 Enforcement Officer * * *

9 Sec. 6. 20 V.S.A. § 2362a is amended to read:

10 § 2362a. POTENTIAL HIRING AGENCY; DUTY TO CONTACT

11 CURRENT OR FORMER ~~AGENCY~~ AGENCIES

12 (a)(1) Prior to hiring a law enforcement officer, the executive officer of a

13 potential hiring law enforcement agency shall:

14 (A) require that officer to execute a written waiver that explicitly

15 authorizes ~~the officer's~~:

16 (i) the officer's current law enforcement agency employer to

17 disclose its analysis of the officer's performance at that agency, if the officer is

18 still employed at that agency; or

19 (ii) ~~last any previous~~ law enforcement agency ~~employer~~ employers

20 to disclose their analysis of the officer's performance at that agency and the

1 reason that officer is no longer employed by that agency, if regardless of
2 whether or not the officer is ~~not~~ currently employed at an agency; and

3 (B) contact ~~that agency~~ all known previous law enforcement agencies
4 to obtain ~~that disclosure~~ the disclosures described in subdivisions (A)(i) and
5 (ii) of this subdivision (1) and provide to ~~that~~ the previous law enforcement
6 agency a copy of ~~that~~ the officer's written waiver.

7 (2) An officer who refuses to execute the written waiver shall not be
8 hired by the potential hiring agency.

9 * * *

10 * * * Rule Adoption Deadline Modification * * *

11 Sec. 7. REPEAL

12 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 166, Sec. 8(b) (Rules) is repealed.

13 Sec. 8. RULE ADOPTION DEADLINE

14 On or before July 1, 2025, the Vermont Criminal Justice Council shall
15 adopt the rules regarding alternate routes to the certification required by 20

16 V.S.A. § 2355(a)(1).

17 * * * Effective Date * * *

18 Sec. 9. EFFECTIVE DATE

19 This act shall take effect on passage.