

Act No. 118 (H.130). Public safety; law enforcement, 911 call taking, dispatch, and training safety

An act relating to law enforcement, 911 call taking, dispatch, and training safety

This act relates to the miscellaneous subjects described in its title.

Sec. 1 of the act creates a Law Enforcement Officer Regulation Study Committee to make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding specified issues pertaining to law enforcement officer regulation.

Secs. 2 and 3 of the act are in regard to 911 call taking and dispatch. Sec. 2 creates a working group to make recommendations to legislative committees of jurisdiction and the Governor regarding the provision of statewide call-taking operations for Vermont's 911 system and the manner in which dispatch services are provided. Sec. 3 requires the Department of Public Safety to continue to provide 911 call-taking services unless otherwise directed by legislative enactment.

Sec. 4 adds four new matters that Level II certified law enforcement officers may investigate.

Sec. 5 clarifies that only law enforcement agencies that intend to use electronic control devices must adopt a policy for their use.

Sec. 6 provides that a person commits the crime of aggravated cruelty to animals if he or she intentionally injures or kills an animal that is in the performance of official duties while under the supervision of a law enforcement officer.

Secs. 12 and 13 are in regard to training safety at the Robert H. Wood, Jr. Criminal Justice and Fire Service Training Center of Vermont. Sec. 12 creates a Training Safety Subcommittee as a subcommittee of the existing Training Center Governance Committee, with Sec. 13 addressing the initial responsibilities of the Subcommittee and Committee.

Multiple effective dates, beginning on May 23, 2016