

From: wbohnyak@orangecountysheriff.com <wbohnyak@orangecountysheriff.com>
on behalf of William Bohnyak <wbohnyak@orangecountyvt.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2018 2:05 PM
To: Maida Townsend
Subject: H.12 - An act relating to miscellaneous law enforcement amendments

Rep. [Maida Townsend](#), Chair

In reference to Representative Huber's bill H-12. I could not find Rep. Huber's email. Please let him know I am writing to you as Chair.

I represent the Vermont Sheriff's Association. We disagree with with Lines 9-12.

The Sheriff's strongly believe that the Vermont Police Academy employees have been and should continue to be our trainers of the latest law enforcement techniques. With all due respect to Executive Director Gauthier. Our trainers at the academy are not law enforcement officers. They may have been at one point however they have a choice to become a full time trainer and some trainers stay on part-time with a law enforcement agency.

When we look at a law enforcement officer vs. VPA trainer. For example the Sheriff's have State Deputies who transports prisoners. These deputies go through the same level of training as our State Police troopers. Deputies work at all times of the day and night. Although the courts are open 8-430pm. Our deputies may need to bring a prisoner from Chittenden County to Bennington County court and start their day at 400am and return home at 800pm. These deputies are subjected to the worst of the worst people. Sometimes getting spit at, feces through at them, fighting and then worrying if this person has AIDs or Hephaestus. So this is why trainers are trainers and not law enforcement officers. They are in a controlled environment.

As far as the retirement, even the State deputies are not all in Group C retirement. Some are in defined Contribution or group F.

To be fair with all law enforcement officers state wide they should be in group C however eliminating the mandatory 20 years or age 55 and out.

However most law enforcement officers 20 years of shift work, working late, dealing with crime and crash scenes and many more incidents that would make the average citizen sick. Also missing family gatherings or your child's birthday.

Thank You for taking the time reading this.

Sheriff Bill Bohnyak
Orange County