

**HOUSE BILL NO. 253**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVE TARR**

**Introduced: 1/7/22**  
**Referred: Prefiled**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to reporting acts of misconduct by peace officers; relating to de-**  
2 **escalation procedures used by peace officers; relating to peace officer certificates; and**  
3 **relating to the Alaska Police Standards Council."**

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 \* **Section 1.** AS 18.65.220 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 (b) The council shall adopt regulations that require

7 (1) a police officer, probation officer, parole officer, municipal  
8 correctional officer, or correctional officer to de-escalate an encounter with a person  
9 who resists or responds aggressively to officer contact or arrest by using nondeadly or  
10 less lethal means before using deadly force, if de-escalation is safe to attempt;

11 (2) a police officer, probation officer, parole officer, municipal  
12 correctional officer, or correctional officer to intervene when the officer knows, or  
13 reasonably should know, that another officer is engaged in an act of misconduct,  
14 unless the officer cannot intervene safely; and

1 (3) an officer under (2) of this subsection to immediately report to a  
2 supervisor the incident involving another officer engaged in an act of misconduct.

3 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 18.65.240(a) is amended to read:

4 (a) A person may not be appointed as a police officer, except on a  
5 probationary basis, unless the person (1) has satisfactorily completed a basic program  
6 of police training approved by the council, which includes at least 12 hours of  
7 instruction regarding domestic violence, **as that term is defined in AS 18.66.990,**  
8 **[AND]** at least 12 hours of instruction regarding sexual assault, as **that term is**  
9 **[THOSE TERMS ARE]** defined in AS 18.66.990, **and instruction regarding the**  
10 **regulations adopted under AS 18.65.220(b)(1) - (3),** and (2) possesses other  
11 qualifications the council has established for the employment of police officers,  
12 including minimum age, education, physical and mental standards, citizenship, moral  
13 character, and experience. The council shall prescribe the means of presenting  
14 evidence of fulfillment of these requirements.

15 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 18.65.240(c) is amended to read:

16 (c) The council may deny or revoke the certificate of a police officer who does  
17 not meet the standards adopted under (a)(2) of this section, **who fails to comply with**  
18 **the regulations adopted under AS 18.65.220(b)(1) - (3), or who has been the**  
19 **subject of a substantiated report of an incident involving misconduct filed in**  
20 **accordance with AS 18.65.220(b)(3).**

21 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 18.65.242(b) is amended to read:

22 (b) The council shall

23 (1) prescribe the means of presenting evidence of fulfillment of the  
24 requirements set out in (a) of this section; and

25 (2) issue a certificate evidencing satisfaction of the requirements of (a)  
26 of this section to an applicant who

27 (A) satisfies the requirements of (a)(1) of this section; and

28 (B) meets the minimum education standards of (a)(2) of this  
29 section by satisfactorily completing a training program for municipal  
30 correctional, correctional, probation, or parole officers established under  
31 AS 18.65.230, including training regarding domestic violence that contains the

1 subjects set out in AS 18.66.310(d), training in intervening when another  
 2 officer engages in an act of misconduct, training in reporting incidents  
 3 involving misconduct by another officer, and training in the de-escalation  
 4 procedures required by regulations adopted under AS 18.65.220(b)(1) -  
 5 (3), or a course of instruction in another jurisdiction equivalent in content and  
 6 quality to that required by the council for approved municipal correctional,  
 7 correctional, probation, or parole officer education and training programs in  
 8 this state.

9 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 18.65.245 is amended to read:

10 **Sec. 18.65.245. Denial or revocation of certificate of municipal**  
 11 **correctional, correctional, probation, or parole officer.** The council may

12 (1) deny a certificate to an applicant for a municipal correctional,  
 13 correctional, probation, or parole officer certificate if the applicant does not meet the  
 14 standards adopted by the council under AS 18.65.242(a), fails to comply with the  
 15 regulations adopted under AS 18.65.220(b)(1) - (3), or has been the subject of a  
 16 substantiated report of an incident involving misconduct filed in accordance with  
 17 AS 18.65.220(b)(3);

18 (2) revoke the certificate of a municipal correctional, correctional,  
 19 probation, or parole officer who, having been issued a certificate, fails to meet the  
 20 standards adopted by the council under AS 18.65.242(a), fails to comply with the  
 21 regulations adopted under AS 18.65.220(b)(1) - (3), or has been the subject of a  
 22 substantiated report of an incident involving misconduct filed in accordance with  
 23 AS 18.65.220(b)(3).

24 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 18.65.280(b) is amended to read:

25 (b) A political subdivision with an established police training program  
 26 meeting the requirements of AS 18.65.220(a)(2) and (3) [AS 18.65.220(2) AND (3)]  
 27 may exclude itself from the requirements of AS 18.65.240 by ordinance. The  
 28 exclusion has no effect on eligibility to receive federal or state grants.

29 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 18.65.670(c) is amended to read:

30 (c) The commissioner of public safety may adopt regulations related to village  
 31 public safety officers, including minimum standards and training, criteria for

1 participation by a community, a municipality, an Alaska Native organization, or a  
2 corporation, and the interaction between the Department of Public Safety and village  
3 public safety officers. Regulations adopted by the commissioner of public safety under  
4 this subsection may not prohibit village public safety officers who otherwise meet  
5 minimum standards and training from carrying firearms. If the commissioner of public  
6 safety adopts regulations regarding training for village public safety officers, at a  
7 minimum, that training must include disability training that provides training in the  
8 subjects set out in AS 18.65.220(a)(3) [AS 18.65.220(3)]. The commissioner of  
9 corrections may adopt regulations related to the functions of village public safety  
10 officers providing probation and parole supervision.