



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Raised Bill No. 6622

LCO No. 3946



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:
(PS)

**AN ACT CONCERNING CERTIFICATION OR ACCREDITATION
REQUIREMENT DEADLINES FOR A LAW ENFORCEMENT UNIT THAT
SERVES A MUNICIPALITY AND CONSISTS SOLELY OF
CONSTABLES OR RESIDENT STATE TROOPERS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 7-294ee of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) The Police Officer Standards and Training Council, established
4 under section 7-294b, and the Commissioner of Emergency Services and
5 Public Protection or the commissioner's designee, shall jointly develop,
6 adopt and revise, as necessary, minimum standards and practices for
7 the administration, management and operation of law enforcement
8 units, as defined in section 7-294a. Such minimum standards and
9 practices shall be based upon standards established by the International
10 Association of Chiefs of Police and the Commission on Accreditation for
11 Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., and shall include, but need not be
12 limited to, standards and practices regarding bias-based policing, use of
13 force, response to crimes of family violence, use of body-worn recording
14 equipment, complaints that allege misconduct by police officers, use of

15 electronic defense weapons, eyewitness identification procedures,
16 notifications in death and related events and pursuits by police officers
17 and compliance with the guidance issued by the council pursuant to
18 subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 7-294d regarding reporting
19 procedures to be followed by chief law enforcement officers for
20 certificate suspension, cancellation or revocation. Not later than January
21 1, 2023, the council shall, within available appropriations, divide the
22 minimum standards and practices into three state-accreditation tiers, to
23 be known as tier one, tier two and tier three. Tier one shall consist of
24 minimum standards and practices designed to protect law enforcement
25 units from liability, enhance the delivery of services and improve public
26 confidence in law enforcement units. Tier two shall consist of minimum
27 standards and practices for the administration, management and
28 operation of law enforcement units. Tier three shall consist of higher
29 minimum standards and practices for the administration, management
30 and operation of law enforcement units. The council shall post the
31 minimum standards and practices of each tier on the council's Internet
32 web site and disseminate the minimum standards and practices of each
33 tier to law enforcement units. The council and commissioner or the
34 commissioner's designee shall jointly develop a process to review a law
35 enforcement unit's compliance with the minimum standards and
36 practices of each tier and issue a certificate of compliance with the
37 minimum standards and practices of tier one, tier two or tier three, as
38 the case may be, to a law enforcement unit that meets or exceeds the
39 minimum standards and practices of such tier.

40 (b) On and after January 1, 2019, and until December 31, 2022, each
41 law enforcement unit shall adopt and maintain (1) the minimum
42 standards and practices developed by the council pursuant to
43 subsection (a) of this section, or (2) a higher level of accreditation
44 standards developed by the council or the Commission on Accreditation
45 for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., except a law enforcement unit that
46 serves a municipality and consists solely of constables or resident state
47 troopers shall adopt and maintain such standards and practices or
48 accreditation on and after January 1, 2019, and until December 31, 2023.

49 (c) On and after January 1, 2023, and until December 31, 2023, each
50 law enforcement unit shall (1) be certified, at a minimum, as meeting the
51 requirements for state-accreditation tier one developed by the council
52 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, or (2) meet a higher level of
53 accreditation standards developed by the Commission on Accreditation
54 for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., except a law enforcement unit that
55 serves a municipality and consists solely of constables or resident state
56 troopers shall be so certified or meet such accreditation standards on
57 and after January 1, 2024, and until December 31, 2024.

58 (d) On and after January 1, 2024, and until December 31, 2025, each
59 law enforcement unit shall (1) be certified, at a minimum, as meeting the
60 requirements for state-accreditation tiers one and two developed by the
61 council pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, or (2) meet a higher
62 level of accreditation standards developed by the Commission on
63 Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., except a law
64 enforcement unit that serves a municipality and consists solely of
65 constables or resident state troopers shall be so certified or meet such
66 accreditation standards on and after January 1, 2025, and until
67 December 31, 2026.

68 (e) On and after January 1, 2026, each law enforcement unit shall (1)
69 be certified as meeting the requirements for state-accreditation tiers one,
70 two and three developed by the council pursuant to subsection (a) of
71 this section, or (2) meet a higher level of accreditation standards
72 developed by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement
73 Agencies, Inc., except a law enforcement unit that serves a municipality
74 and consists solely of constables or resident state troopers shall be so
75 certified or meet such accreditation standards on and after January 1,
76 2027.

77 (f) If a law enforcement unit fails to obtain or maintain the
78 appropriate certification for a state-accreditation tier or tiers or the
79 higher level of accreditation standards developed by the Commission
80 on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., as required by the
81 provisions of subsections (b) to (e), inclusive, of this section, the council

82 shall work with the law enforcement unit to obtain and maintain such
83 certification or accreditation standards.

84 (g) If a law enforcement unit fails to comply with the guidance issued
85 by the council pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 7-
86 294d regarding reporting procedures to be followed by chief law
87 enforcement officers for certificate suspension, cancellation or
88 revocation, the council may revoke the certificate of compliance with the
89 appropriate state-accreditation tier or tiers, as the case may be, issued
90 pursuant to this section.

91 (h) No civil action may be brought against a law enforcement unit for
92 damages arising from the failure of the law enforcement unit to (1)
93 adopt and maintain such minimum standards and practices or a higher
94 level of accreditation standards pursuant to subsection (b) of this
95 section, or (2) obtain and maintain the appropriate certificate of
96 compliance with the appropriate state-accreditation tier or tiers or
97 accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement
98 Agencies, Inc., as required by subsections (c) to (e), inclusive, of this
99 section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	7-294ee

Statement of Purpose:

To delay, by one year, certification or accreditation requirements for a law enforcement unit that serves a municipality and consists solely of constables or resident state troopers.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]