

House Bill 570

By: Representatives Neal of the 74th, Jackson of the 128th, Lopez of the 86th, and Lim of the 99th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 5 of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 Georgia Public Safety Training Center, so as to provide for training requirements for mental
3 health operatives; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
4 purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 5 of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia
8 Public Safety Training Center, is amended in paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of Code Section
9 35-5-2, relating to board authorized to establish, operate, and maintain center and powers of
10 board as to selection and compensation of administrator, as follows:

11 "(1) To establish, operate, and maintain the Georgia Public Safety Training Center for
12 the purpose of providing facilities and programs for the training of state and local law
13 enforcement officers, firefighters, correctional personnel, emergency medical personnel,
14 mental health operatives, and others; and"

SECTION 2.

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Said chapter is further amended in subsection (d) of Code Section 35-5-5, relating to center available for use by certain personnel, fees, enrollment, authorization for expenditure of funds, and powers and duties, as follows:

"(d) Subject to such rules and regulations as shall be prescribed by the board, the Georgia Public Safety Training Center shall have the following powers and duties in connection with the training of peace officers, emergency medical personnel, mental health operatives, and law enforcement support personnel:

(1) To train instructors authorized to conduct training of peace officers, emergency medical personnel, mental health operatives, and law enforcement support personnel;

(2) To reimburse or provide for certain costs incurred in training peace officers, emergency medical personnel, mental health operatives, and law enforcement support personnel employed or appointed by each agency, organ, or department of this state, counties, and municipalities to the extent that funds are appropriated for such purpose by the General Assembly. In the event sufficient funds are not appropriated for a fiscal year to fund the full cost provided for in this paragraph, then the amount which would otherwise be payable shall be reduced pro rata on the basis of the funds actually appropriated. As used in this paragraph, the terms 'cost' and 'costs' shall not include travel or salaries of personnel undergoing training and shall be limited exclusively to the cost of tuition, meals, and lodging which are incurred in connection with such training;

(3) To expend funds appropriated or otherwise available to the center for paying the costs of training provided under subsection (a) of Code Section 35-8-20, other than travel expenses and salaries of police chiefs or department heads of law enforcement units and wardens of state institutions undergoing training, and shall expend such funds for purposes of compensating a training officer to administer the course of training and conduct any business associated with the training provisions of said Code Section 35-8-20;

42 (4) To expend funds appropriated or otherwise available to the center for paying the
43 costs of training provided for under subsection (a) of Code Section 35-8-20.1, other than
44 travel expenses and salaries of police chiefs or department heads of law enforcement
45 units undergoing training, and shall expend such funds for purposes of compensating a
46 training officer to administer the course of training and conduct any business associated
47 with the training provisions of said Code Section 35-8-20.1;

48 (5) To expend funds appropriated or otherwise available to the center for paying the
49 costs of training provided for under Chapter 11 of Title 31 for the initial certification
50 training and continued training as needed by emergency medical personnel and shall
51 expend such funds for purposes of compensating a training officer to administer the
52 course of training and conduct any business associated with the training provisions of
53 said chapter; and

54 (6) To administer and coordinate the training for communications officers with respect
55 to the requirements of Code Section 35-8-23. The board shall be authorized to
56 promulgate rules and regulations to facilitate the administration and coordination of
57 training consistent with the provisions of said Code Section 35-8-23. The tuition costs
58 of the training of communications officers shall be paid from funds appropriated to the
59 center."

60 **SECTION 3.**

61 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.