

SENATE BILL NO. 786

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR BEAN.

4228S.01H

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 590, RSMo, by adding thereto two new sections relating to peace officer tuition reimbursement.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 590, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto
2 two new sections, to be known as sections 590.1070 and 590.1075,
3 to read as follows:

**590.1070. 1. There is hereby established within the
2 department of public safety the "Peace Officer Basic
3 Training Tuition Reimbursement Program". Any moneys
4 appropriated by the general assembly for this program shall
5 be used to provide tuition reimbursement for:**

6 (1) Qualifying Missouri residents who have paid
7 tuition at a state licensed basic law enforcement training
8 center for the basic law enforcement training required for a
9 peace officer license in this state and who have been
10 employed as a full-time peace officer in this state for a
11 specified period; and

12 (2) Qualifying government entities that have paid
13 tuition for an employee to receive the basic law enforcement
14 training required for a peace officer license in this state
15 at a licensed basic law enforcement training center when
16 such employee has been employed as a full-time peace officer
17 for a specified period.

18 2. The Missouri POST Commission shall be the
19 administrative agency for the implementation of the tuition
20 reimbursement program established under this section, and
21 shall:

22 (1) Prescribe the form and the time and method of
23 awarding tuition reimbursement under this section and shall
24 supervise the processing thereof; and

25 (2) Select qualifying recipients to receive
26 reimbursement under this section and determine the manner
27 and method of payment to the recipient.

28 3. To be eligible to receive tuition reimbursement
29 under subdivision (1) of subsection 1 of this section, a
30 person shall:

31 (1) Be initially employed as a peace officer on or
32 after September 1, 2022;

33 (2) Submit to the commission an initial application
34 for tuition reimbursement, and annually thereafter for each
35 year of qualifying employment, in the manner and on a form
36 prescribed by the commission that requires:

37 (a) Employer verification of the person's employment
38 as a full-time peace officer in this state for at least one
39 year and the person's current employment as a peace officer
40 in this state as of the date of the application;

41 (b) A transcript containing the person's basic police
42 training course work and his or her date of graduation; and

43 (c) A statement of the total amount of tuition the
44 applicant paid to the basic training center for his or her
45 basic training;

46 (3) Be currently employed, and have completed at least
47 one year of employment, as a full-time peace officer in this
48 state; and

49 (4) Comply with any other requirements adopted by the
50 commission under this section.

51 4. To be eligible to receive tuition reimbursement
52 under subdivision (2) of subsection 1 of this section, a
53 government entity shall:

54 (1) Be the employer of a peace officer who was
55 initially employed on or after September 1, 2022;

56 (2) Submit to the commission an initial application
57 for tuition reimbursement, and annually thereafter for each
58 year of the employee's qualifying employment, up to four
59 years, in the manner and on a form prescribed by the
60 commission that requires:

61 (a) Verification of the employee's full-time
62 employment as a peace officer in this state for at least one
63 year and the employee's current employment as a peace
64 officer in this state as of the date of the application;

65 (b) A transcript containing the employee's basic
66 police training course work and his or her date of
67 graduation; and

68 (c) A statement of the total amount of tuition and
69 fees the employer paid to the basic training center for the
70 employee's basic training;

71 (3) Certify that the employee is currently employed,
72 and has completed at least one year of employment, as a full-
73 time peace officer in this state; and

74 (4) Comply with any other requirements adopted by the
75 commission under this section.

76 5. Tuition reimbursement granted under this section,
77 subject to the availability of funds, shall be reimbursed as
78 follows:

79 (1) At the end of one year of continuous employment as
80 a full-time peace officer, an applicant or his or her

81 employer, whichever applies, shall be eligible to receive
82 reimbursement for twenty-five percent of the total tuition
83 paid to a licensed basic training center;

84 (2) At the end of two, three, and four years of
85 continuous qualifying employment as a full-time peace
86 officer, and submission of documents verifying continued
87 full-time employment as a peace officer, an applicant or his
88 or her employer, whichever applies, shall be eligible to
89 receive reimbursement each year for twenty-five percent of
90 the total tuition paid to a licensed basic training center.
91 A government entity may qualify for tuition reimbursement
92 under this subdivision for tuition paid for an employee even
93 if such person is no longer employed by the government
94 entity as long as the person for whom tuition was paid is
95 still continuously employed as a full-time peace officer.

96 6. Notwithstanding any provision of this section to
97 the contrary, the total amount of tuition reimbursement
98 provided under this section to an eligible person, or to a
99 government entity with respect to an employee, shall not
100 exceed six thousand dollars per person or employee.

101 7. The department of public safety shall promulgate
102 all necessary rules and regulations for the administration
103 of the program. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term
104 is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the
105 authority delegated in this section shall become effective
106 only if it complies with and is subject to all of the
107 provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section
108 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and
109 if any of the powers vested with the general assembly
110 pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective
111 date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently
112 held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking

113 authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28,
114 2022, shall be invalid and void.

590.1075. There is hereby created in the state
2 treasury the "Peace Officer Basic Training Tuition
3 Reimbursement Fund", which shall consist of moneys
4 appropriated annually by the general assembly from general
5 revenue and any gifts, bequests, or donations. The state
6 treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In accordance
7 with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may
8 approve disbursements. The fund shall be a dedicated fund
9 and, upon appropriation, moneys in the fund shall be used
10 solely for the administration of section 590.1070.
11 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080, to the
12 contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the
13 biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general
14 revenue fund. The state treasurer shall invest moneys in
15 the fund in the same manner as other funds are invested.
16 Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be
17 credited to the fund.

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