

SPECIAL NEEDS TRAINING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

AMENDMENTS

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Steve Eliason

Senate Sponsor: Daniel W. Thatcher

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill requires peace officer training to include training on autism spectrum disorder and other mental illnesses.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- requires that peace officers have training in intervention responses to autism spectrum disorder and other mental illnesses.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53-6-202, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Fifth Special Session, Chapter 6

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53-6-202** is amended to read:

53-6-202. Basic training course -- Completion required -- Annual training -- Prohibition from exercising powers -- Reinstatement.

(1) (a) The director shall:

(i) (A) suggest and prepare subject material; and

30 (B) schedule instructors for basic training courses; or

31 (ii) review the material and instructor choices submitted by a certified academy.

32 (b) The subject material, instructors, and schedules shall be approved or disapproved
33 by a majority vote of the council.

34 (2) The materials shall be reviewed and approved by the council on or before July 1st
35 of each year and may from time to time be changed or amended by majority vote of the council.

36 (3) The basic training in a certified academy:

37 (a) shall be appropriate for the basic training of peace officers in the techniques of law
38 enforcement in the discretion of the director; and

39 (b) may not include the use of chokeholds, carotid restraints, or any act that impedes
40 the breathing or circulation of blood likely to produce a loss of consciousness, as a valid
41 method of restraint.

42 (4) (a) All peace officers [~~must~~] shall satisfactorily complete the basic training course
43 or the waiver process provided for in this chapter as well as annual certified training of not less
44 than 40 hours as the director, with the advice and consent of the council, directs.

45 (b) A peace officer who fails to satisfactorily complete the annual training shall
46 automatically be prohibited from exercising peace officer powers until any deficiency is made
47 up.

48 (5) The director shall ensure that annual training covers intervention responses for
49 mental illnesses, autism spectrum disorder, and other neurological and developmental
50 disorders.