

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6181

As of January 19, 2024

Title: An act relating to law enforcement officer definition.

Brief Description: Concerning law enforcement officer definition.

Sponsors: Senator Liias.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Law & Justice: 1/22/24.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Creates identical law enforcement definitions for reserve officer and specially commissioned officer.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LAW & JUSTICE

Staff: William Bridges (786-7312)

Background: Mutual Aid Peace Officers Powers Act. The Mutual Aid Peace Officers Powers Act (Act) authorizes law enforcement agencies to contract with each other to provide mutual assistance without regard to normal territorial limitations. The Act contains definitions of specially commissioned officer and reserve officer.

Criminal Justice Training Commission. The Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) establishes the certification standards and process for peace officers and other law enforcement personnel. It also provides training and educational programs, including operating the mandatory training academy for all city and county entry-level peace officers in the state. State law, which governs CJTC, also includes definitions of specially commissioned officer and reserve officer.

Different Definitions of Reserve Officers. Reserve officers work for general authority law

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enforcement agencies on a part-time basis and are a subset of specially commissioned officers. In 2021, as part of legislation expanding the CJTC's oversight authority, definitions of reserve officer and specially commissioned officer were added to state law. Those definitions are different from the ones in the Act.

Summary of Bill: Creating Identical Definitions of Reserve Officer and Specially Commissioned Officer. Inconsistent definitions of reserve officer and specially commissioned officer in the Act and state law governing the CJTC are resolved by using the definitions in the Act.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.