

CHAPTER 23

AN ACT concerning law enforcement practices and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes and Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes, and amending P.L.1997, c.257.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

C.52:17B-77.13 Development, identification of uniform cultural diversity training course materials, online tutorial.

1. a. The Department of Law and Public Safety shall develop or identify uniform cultural diversity training course materials and an online tutorial that shall include instruction designed to promote positive interaction with, and community outreach to, all residents within a community, including residents of all racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals residing within the community. Components of the training course materials and online tutorial shall include, but not be limited to, instruction on:

(1) the various cultural communities and the effects of diversity on community relations within a community;

(2) appropriate methods by which an officer may interact with people of various cultures and religions in the community, with an emphasis on officer safety skills and conflict resolution techniques;

(3) best practices in law enforcement techniques when analyzing and solving local neighborhood problems, meeting with community groups, and working with citizens on crime prevention programs; and

(4) the impact that police diversity skills have on overall law enforcement effectiveness.

b. The Department of Law and Public Safety shall cause the training course materials and online tutorial developed or identified pursuant to subsection a. of this section to be made available to every State, county, and municipal law enforcement department in the State and to each campus police department at an institution of higher education in the State that appoints police officers pursuant to P.L.1970, c.211 (C.18A:6-4.2 et seq.) for use in providing officer training and information promoting community outreach efforts within the law enforcement department's community.

c. The Department of Law and Public Safety shall periodically assess the training course materials and online tutorial developed or identified pursuant to subsection a. of this section and update them where the department finds appropriate.

C.52:17B-77.14 Provision of in-service training.

2. Every State, county, and municipal law enforcement department in the State and every campus police department at an institution of higher education in the State that appoints police officers pursuant to P.L.1970, c.211 (C.18A:6-4.2 et seq.) may provide in-service training of its personnel utilizing the training course materials or online tutorial developed or identified by the Department of Law and Public Safety pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2016, c.23 (C.52:17B-77.13).

3. Section 2 of P.L.1997, c.257 (C.52:9DD-9) is amended to read as follows:

C.52:9DD-9 Duties of council.

2. It shall be the duty of the council:

a. to develop policy proposals for the State and assist with coordinating efforts to promote prejudice reduction and prevent and deter crimes based upon the victim's race,

color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or physical, mental or cognitive disability;

- b. to assist in diffusing tensions in communities affected by such crimes;
- c. to act as a clearinghouse for information and program ideas among the existing county human relations commissions;
- d. to assist the efforts of the county human relations commissions in relieving tensions within the community;
- e. to assist in providing training programs for members of the county human relations commissions and other interested community leaders;
- f. to develop and present a biennial report to the Governor and Legislature on the status of bias and violence based upon race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or physical, mental or cognitive disability;
- g. to establish and maintain a listing of conflict resolution programs and experts to be available as a resource for communities in time of crisis;
- h. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2016, c.23);
- i. to develop in conjunction with the Department of Education and the educational, civil rights and human relations communities educational programs intended to educate, encourage, develop, promote and strengthen respect for human rights and cultural diversity and prevent and combat racism, intolerance and bigotry;
- j. to assist local communities in establishing local human relations commissions;
- k. to assess changes in local demographics and assist communities in adapting to minority population shifts;
- l. to assist State, county and local government agencies with multi-cultural awareness programs;
- m. to require that the representatives from the county human relations commissions report back to the counties regarding the work and activities of the State council;
- n. to provide conciliation assistance and conduct all activities in confidence and without publicity; and
- o. to make recommendations to governmental entities for the development of policies and procedures in general and for programs of formal and informal education that will aid in eliminating all types of discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or physical, mental or cognitive disability.

4. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh month following enactment.

Approved August 9, 2016.