

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 125—ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS

FEBRUARY 9, 2023

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to public safety. (BDR 43-796)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact. Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to public safety; requiring the tribal liaison for the Department of Public Safety to maintain ongoing communication relating to missing or murdered indigenous persons between the Department and certain entities; requiring a law enforcement agency to accept a report relating to certain persons missing from an Indian reservation or Indian colony located in whole or in part in this State; requiring the Peace Officers’ Standards and Training Commission to adopt certain regulations for the training of peace officers related to missing indigenous persons; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law requires each state agency that communicates with Indian tribes  
2 on a regular basis to designate a tribal liaison whose duties include maintaining  
3 ongoing communication between the state agency and affected Indian tribes. (NRS  
4 233A.260) **Section 2** of this bill requires the tribal liaison for the Department of  
5 Public Safety to also maintain ongoing communication related to missing or  
6 murdered indigenous persons between the Department and: (1) Indian tribes and  
7 tribal communities in this State; (2) tribal organizations; (3) urban Indian  
8 organizations; (4) other tribal liaisons designated by state agencies; and (5)  
9 nongovernmental entities that provide services to women who are members of  
10 Indian tribes.

11 Existing law requires each sheriff, chief of police or other law enforcement  
12 agency which receives a report of a person missing under suspicious circumstances  
13 who is 18 years of age or older to enter the information concerning the missing  
14 person into the computer for the National Crime Information Center. (NRS  
15 480.500) **Section 3** of this bill requires a sheriff, chief of police or other law  
16 enforcement agency to: (1) accept a report of a person who is 18 years of age or



17 older and missing under suspicious circumstances from an Indian reservation or  
18 Indian colony that is located in whole or in any part of this State; and (2) enter the  
19 information concerning the missing person into the computer for the National  
20 Crime Information Center and the National Missing and Unidentified Persons  
21 System.

22 Existing law requires the Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commission  
23 to adopt regulations which require that all peace officers receive training in the  
24 handling of cases involving missing children. (NRS 289.510) **Section 4** of this bill  
25 requires the Commission to also adopt regulations which require that all peace  
26 officers receive training in the receipt of reports and the handling of cases relating  
27 to missing indigenous women and other indigenous persons.

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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 480 of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.

3 **Sec. 2.** *In addition to the duties set forth in NRS 233A.260,*  
4 *the tribal liaison for the Department shall maintain ongoing*  
5 *communication relating to missing or murdered indigenous*  
6 *persons between the Department and:*

- 7 1. *Indian tribes and tribal communities in this State;*
- 8 2. *Tribal organizations;*
- 9 3. *Urban Indian organizations;*
- 10 4. *Other tribal liaisons designated by state agencies pursuant*  
11 *to NRS 233A.260; and*
- 12 5. *Nongovernmental entities that provide services to women*  
13 *who are members of Indian tribes.*

14 **Sec. 3.** *Notwithstanding any other provision of state or local*  
15 *law, a sheriff, chief of police or other law enforcement agency*  
16 *must:*

17 1. *Accept a report of a person who is 18 years of age or older*  
18 *and missing under suspicious circumstances from an Indian*  
19 *reservation or Indian colony that is located in whole or in part in*  
20 *this State; and*

21 2. *Enter the information concerning the missing person into*  
22 *the computer for the National Crime Information Center pursuant*  
23 *to NRS 480.500 and the National Missing and Unidentified*  
24 *Persons System.*

25 **Sec. 4.** NRS 289.510 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
26 289.510 1. The Commission:

27 (a) Shall meet at the call of the Chair, who must be elected by a  
28 majority vote of the members of the Commission.

29 (b) Shall provide for and encourage the training and education  
30 of persons whose primary duty is law enforcement to ensure the  
31 safety of the residents of and visitors to this State.



1 (c) Shall adopt regulations establishing minimum standards for  
2 the certification and decertification, recruitment, selection and  
3 training of peace officers. The regulations must establish:

4 (1) Requirements for evaluations to be conducted during the  
5 recruitment and selection of peace officers, which must identify  
6 implicit bias on the part of a peace officer on the basis of race, color,  
7 religion, national origin, physical or mental disability, sexual  
8 orientation or gender identity or expression;

9 (2) Requirements for basic training for category I, category II  
10 and category III peace officers and reserve peace officers;

11 (3) Standards for programs for the continuing education of  
12 peace officers, including minimum courses of study and  
13 requirements concerning attendance, which must require that all  
14 peace officers annually complete not less than 12 hours of  
15 continuing education in courses that address:

16 (I) Racial profiling;

17 (II) Mental health, including, without limitation, crisis  
18 intervention;

19 (III) The well being of officers;

20 (IV) Implicit bias recognition;

21 (V) De-escalation;

22 (VI) Human trafficking; and

23 (VII) Firearms.

24 (4) Qualifications for instructors of peace officers;

25 (5) Requirements for the certification of a course of training;

26 and

27 (6) Standards for an annual behavioral wellness visit for  
28 peace officers to aid in preserving the emotional and mental health  
29 of the peace officer and assessing conditions that may affect the  
30 performance of duties by the peace officer.

31 (d) Shall, when necessary, present courses of training and  
32 continuing education courses for category I, category II and  
33 category III peace officers and reserve peace officers.

34 (e) May make necessary inquiries to determine whether the  
35 agencies of this State and of the local governments are complying  
36 with standards set forth in its regulations.

37 (f) Shall carry out the duties required of the Commission  
38 pursuant to NRS 432B.610 and 432B.620.

39 (g) May perform any other acts that may be necessary and  
40 appropriate to the functions of the Commission as set forth in  
41 NRS 289.450 to 289.680, inclusive.

42 (h) May enter into an interlocal agreement with an Indian tribe  
43 to provide training to and certification of persons employed as  
44 police officers by that Indian tribe.



1 (i) Shall develop and approve a standard curriculum of certified  
2 training programs in crisis intervention, which may be made  
3 available in an electronic format, and which address specialized  
4 responses to persons with mental illness and train peace officers to  
5 identify the signs and symptoms of mental illness, to de-escalate  
6 situations involving persons who appear to be experiencing a  
7 behavioral health crisis and, if appropriate, to connect such persons  
8 to treatment. A peace officer who completes any program developed  
9 pursuant to this paragraph must be issued a certificate of  
10 completion.

11 2. Regulations adopted by the Commission:

12 (a) Apply to all agencies of this State and of local governments  
13 in this State that employ persons as peace officers;

14 (b) Must require that all peace officers receive training in the  
15 handling of cases involving abuse or neglect of children or missing  
16 children;

17 (c) *Must require that all peace officers receive training in the*  
18 *taking reports and handling of cases relating to missing*  
19 *indigenous women and other indigenous persons.*

20 (d) Must require that all peace officers receive training in the  
21 handling of cases involving abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation  
22 and abandonment of older persons or vulnerable persons; and

23 ~~(d)~~ (e) May require that training be carried on at institutions  
24 which it approves in those regulations.

25 **Sec. 5.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and  
26 approval.

27 2. Sections 1, 2 and 3 of this act become effective on  
28 July 1, 2023.

29 3. Section 4 of this act becomes effective:

30 (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any  
31 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative  
32 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

33 (b) On January 1, 2024, for all other purposes.  
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