

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 125—ASSEMBLYWOMAN BACKUS

FEBRUARY 9, 2023

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS BUCK AND KRASNER

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; authorizing 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 authorizes 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 certain circumstances from an Indian reservation or Indian
18 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.

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

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 *may:*

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

- 21 (a) *Has a physical or mental disability;*
- 22 (b) *Is missing after an emergency or natural disaster;*
- 23 (c) *Is missing under:*

24 (1) *Circumstances that indicate he or she may be in danger*
25 *or that his or her disappearance may not be voluntary; or*
26 (2) *Any other suspicious circumstance; and*

27 2. *Enter the information concerning the missing person into*
28 *the computer for the National Crime Information Center pursuant*
29 *to NRS 480.500.*



Sec. 4. NRS 289.510 is hereby amended to read as follows:

289.510 1. The Commission:

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

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

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

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

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

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

(I) Racial profiling;

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

(III) The well-being of officers;

(IV) Implicit bias recognition;

(V) De-escalation;

(VI) Human trafficking; and

(VII) Firearms.

(4) Qualifications for instructors of peace officers;

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

and

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

17 2. Regulations adopted by the Commission:

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

20 (b) Must require that all peace officers receive training in the
21 handling of cases involving abuse or neglect of children or missing
22 children;

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

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

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

31 **Sec. 5.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and
32 approval.

33 2. Sections 1, 2 and 3 of this act become effective on
34 July 1, 2023.

35 3. Section 4 of this act becomes effective:

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

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

