

SENATE BILL NO. 225—SENATOR D. HARRIS

MARCH 7, 2023

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing peace officers. (BDR 23-651)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
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 peace officers; revising provisions relating to the required contents of an application for certification as a peace officer; requiring a law enforcement agency to provide to the Peace Officers’ Standards and Training Commission certain notice and information concerning peace officers employed by the agency; prohibiting a law enforcement agency from requiring a peace officer to make certain attestations concerning cannabis as a condition precedent to employment; prescribing requirements for certain standards adopted by regulation of the Commission; disqualifying certain persons from serving as peace officers; requiring the Executive Director of the Commission to report certain information to the National Decertification Index of the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training or an equivalent database; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

- 1 Existing law sets forth provisions governing peace officers and creates the
- 2 Peace Officers’ Standards and Training Commission, which generally provides for
- 3 the training, education and certification of peace officers. (Chapter 289 of NRS)
- 4 Existing law requires an application for certification as a peace officer to include
- 5 the social security number of the applicant and a statement regarding the payment
- 6 of child support. (NRS 289.560, 289.570) **Section 2** of this bill additionally
- 7 requires an application for certification as a peace officer to include an affidavit
- 8 stating that the applicant: (1) is not disqualified from serving as a peace officer; (2)
- 9 has not been discharged, disciplined or asked to resign from employment with a



10 law enforcement agency for certain conduct; and (3) has not resigned from
11 employment or otherwise separated from employment with a law enforcement
12 agency while an investigation concerning certain alleged conduct was pending.
13 **Section 2** also requires the Commission to: (1) deny an application for certification
14 that does not include the required affidavit; and (2) search the National
15 Decertification Index of the International Association of Directors of Law
16 Enforcement Standards and Training, or an equivalent database, to ensure that the
17 name of the applicant does not appear in any such index or database. **Section 6** of
18 this bill makes a conforming change to indicate the proper placement of **sections 2**
19 **and 3** of this bill in the Nevada Revised Statutes.

20 **Section 3** requires a law enforcement agency to immediately notify the
21 Commission if a peace officer employed by the agency: (1) is charged with certain
22 crimes; or (2) resigns from employment or otherwise separates from employment
23 with the agency while an investigation concerning alleged misconduct is pending.
24 **Section 3** also requires a law enforcement agency, upon the request of the
25 Commission, to provide certain information to the Commission concerning a peace
26 officer who resigns or otherwise separates from employment with the agency while
27 an investigation concerning alleged misconduct is pending.

28 With certain exceptions, existing law prohibits a law enforcement agency from
29 requiring a peace officer to disclose certain information as a condition precedent to
30 a promotion, job assignment or other personnel action. (NRS 289.030) **Section 5** of
31 this bill additionally prohibits a law enforcement agency from requiring a peace
32 officer to provide an oral or written attestation concerning any use of cannabis by
33 the peace officer that occurred before the peace officer submitted his or her
34 application for employment with the law enforcement agency as a condition
35 precedent to employment as a peace officer.

36 Existing law requires the Commission to adopt regulations establishing
37 minimum standards for the certification and decertification, recruitment, selection
38 and training of peace officers. (NRS 289.510) **Section 7** of this bill provides that
39 the standards prescribed by regulations adopted by the Commission: (1) must not
40 prohibit the certification of an applicant solely on the basis that the applicant has
41 engaged in the adult use of cannabis or the medical use of cannabis; (2) must not
42 require the decertification of a peace officer solely on the basis that the peace
43 officer has engaged in the adult use of cannabis or the medical use of cannabis; and
44 (3) must require the decertification of a peace officer upon a determination by the
45 Commission that the peace officer knowingly provided false or misleading
46 information in his or her application for certification. **Section 7** also makes
47 conforming changes to reorganize certain provisions relating to regulations adopted
48 by the Commission. **Section 4** of this bill defines certain terms for the purposes of
49 certain requirements relating to cannabis prescribed by **sections 5 and 7**.

50 Existing law provides that a person who has been convicted of a felony in this
51 State or any other state is not qualified to serve as a peace officer. (NRS 289.555)
52 **Section 9** of this bill makes this prohibition applicable regardless of whether the
53 person has had the conviction expunged or sealed. **Section 9** also provides that a
54 person is not qualified to serve as a peace officer if the person has been: (1)
55 convicted of domestic violence in this State or any other state, regardless of
56 whether such a conviction was sealed or expunged; (2) reported to the National
57 Decertification Index or an equivalent database; or (3) decertified or has had his or
58 her certificate or license to practice or serve as a peace officer revoked or annulled
59 by the Commission or a certifying or licensing authority in any other state.

60 Existing law requires the Commission to appoint an Executive Director of the
61 Commission and authorizes the Executive Director to perform certain acts relating
62 to the certification of peace officers. (NRS 289.520, 289.530) **Section 8** of this bill
63 requires the Executive Director to report to the National Decertification Index or an



64 equivalent database: (1) the name of each decertified peace officer; and (2) any
65 other information required by the Index or database, as applicable.

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

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 289 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.

3 **Sec. 2. 1.** *An application for certification as a peace officer*
4 *must include an affidavit stating that the applicant:*

5 (a) *Is not disqualified from serving as a peace officer pursuant*
6 *to NRS 289.555;*

7 (b) *Has not been discharged, disciplined or asked to resign*
8 *from employment with a law enforcement agency in this State or*
9 *any other state for conduct which would, under the regulations*
10 *adopted by the Commission pursuant to NRS 289.510, constitute*
11 *grounds for denying certification or revoking the certificate of a*
12 *peace officer; and*

13 (c) *Has not resigned from employment or otherwise separated*
14 *from employment with a law enforcement agency in this State or*
15 *any other state while an investigation concerning allegations of*
16 *conduct which would, under the regulations adopted by the*
17 *Commission pursuant to NRS 289.510, constitute grounds for*
18 *denying certification or revoking the certificate of a peace officer,*
19 *was pending.*

20 2. *The Commission shall summarily deny any application for*
21 *certification as a peace officer if the application does not include*
22 *the affidavit required by subsection 1.*

23 3. *The Commission shall, for each applicant for certification*
24 *as a peace officer, search the National Decertification Index of the*
25 *International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement*
26 *Standards and Training, or an equivalent database maintained for*
27 *the purpose of serving as a national registry of certificate or*
28 *license revocation actions relating to peace officer misconduct, to*
29 *ensure that the name of the applicant does not appear in any such*
30 *index or database.*

31 **Sec. 3.** *A law enforcement agency shall:*

32 1. *Immediately notify the Commission if a peace officer*
33 *employed by the agency:*

34 (a) *Is charged with a crime for which the regulations adopted*
35 *by the Commission pursuant to NRS 289.510 authorize the*
36 *Commission to revoke or suspend the certificate of the peace*
37 *officer; or*



1 *(b) Resigns from employment or otherwise separates from*
2 *employment with the agency while an investigation concerning*
3 *alleged misconduct is pending; and*

4 *2. If a peace officer resigns or otherwise separates from*
5 *employment while an investigation concerning alleged misconduct*
6 *is pending, provide any information requested by the Commission*
7 *as soon as practicable after receiving the request.*

8 **Sec. 4.** NRS 289.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 289.010 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise
10 requires:

11 1. "Administrative file" means any file of a peace officer
12 containing information, comments or documents about the peace
13 officer. The term does not include any file relating to an
14 investigation conducted pursuant to NRS 289.057 or a criminal
15 investigation of a peace officer.

16 2. *"Adult use of cannabis" has the meaning ascribed to it in*
17 *NRS 678A.075.*

18 3. "Law enforcement agency" means any agency, office,
19 bureau, department, unit or division created by any statute,
20 ordinance or rule which:

21 (a) Has a duty to enforce the law; and

22 (b) Employs any person upon whom some or all of the powers
23 of a peace officer are conferred pursuant to NRS 289.150 to
24 289.360, inclusive.

25 ~~3.~~ 4. *"Medical use of cannabis" has the meaning ascribed*
26 *to it in NRS 678A.215.*

27 5. "Peace officer" means any person upon whom some or all of
28 the powers of a peace officer are conferred pursuant to NRS
29 289.150 to 289.360, inclusive.

30 ~~4.~~ 6. "Punitive action" means any action which may lead to
31 dismissal, demotion, suspension, reduction in salary, written
32 reprimand or transfer of a peace officer for purposes of punishment.

33 7. *"Screening test" means a test of a person's blood, urine,*
34 *hair or saliva to detect the general presence of a controlled*
35 *substance or other drug.*

36 **Sec. 5.** NRS 289.030 is hereby amended to read as follows:

37 289.030 1. A law enforcement agency shall not require any
38 peace officer to ~~disclose~~:

39 (a) *Disclose* the peace officer's assets, debts, sources of income
40 or other financial information or make such a disclosure a condition
41 precedent to a promotion, job assignment or other personnel action
42 unless that information is necessary to:

43 ~~1.~~ (1) Determine the peace officer's credentials for transfer to
44 a specialized unit;



1 ~~[2.]~~ (2) Prevent any conflict of interest which may result in any
2 new assignment; or

3 ~~[3.]~~ (3) Determine whether the peace officer is engaged in
4 unlawful activity.

5 (b) *Provide an oral or written attestation concerning any use*
6 *of cannabis by the peace officer that occurred before the peace*
7 *officer submitted his or her application for employment with the*
8 *law enforcement agency as a condition precedent to employment*
9 *with the agency as a peace officer.*

10 2. *Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a law*
11 *enforcement agency from :*

12 (a) *Requiring a peace officer to provide an oral or written*
13 *attestation concerning any use of cannabis by the peace officer*
14 *that has occurred after the submission of his or her application for*
15 *employment with the law enforcement agency as a condition*
16 *precedent to employment with the agency as a peace officer; or*

17 (b) *Adopting a policy that requires a peace officer to submit to*
18 *a screening test as :*

19 (1) *A condition precedent to employment; or*

20 (2) *A condition for continued employment.*

21 3. *As used in this section, "use of cannabis" includes the*
22 *adult use of cannabis and the medical use of cannabis.*

23 **Sec. 6.** NRS 289.450 is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 289.450 As used in NRS 289.450 to 289.680, inclusive, *and*
25 *sections 2 and 3 of this act*, unless the context otherwise requires,
26 the words and terms defined in NRS 289.460 to 289.490, inclusive,
27 have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

28 **Sec. 7.** NRS 289.510 is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 289.510 1. The Commission:

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

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

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

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

43 ~~— (2) Requirements for basic training for category I, category II~~
44 ~~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~~ the regulations ~~is~~ adopted pursuant to subsection 2.~~

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

~~(g)} (e) May perform any other acts that may be necessary and appropriate to the functions of the Commission as set forth in NRS 289.450 to 289.680, inclusive ~~is~~, and sections 2 and 3 of this act.~~

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

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



1 2. **[Regulations]** *The Commission shall adopt regulations*
2 *establishing minimum standards for:*

3 (a) *The certification and decertification, recruitment, selection*
4 *and training of peace officers. The standards adopted pursuant to*
5 *this paragraph must:*

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

11 (2) *Establish requirements for basic training for category I,*
12 *category II and category III peace officers and reserve peace*
13 *officers;*

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

19 (I) *Racial profiling;*

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

22 (III) *The well-being of officers;*

23 (IV) *Implicit bias recognition;*

24 (V) *De-escalation;*

25 (VI) *Human trafficking; and*

26 (VII) *Firearms;*

27 (4) *Establish qualifications for instructors of peace*
28 *officers;*

29 (5) *Establish requirements for the certification of a course*
30 *of training;*

31 (6) *Require all peace officers to receive training in the*
32 *handling of cases involving abuse or neglect of children or*
33 *missing children;*

34 (7) *Require all peace officers to receive training in the*
35 *handling of cases involving abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation*
36 *and abandonment of older persons or vulnerable persons;*

37 (8) *Not prohibit the certification of an applicant solely on*
38 *the basis that the applicant has engaged in the adult use of*
39 *cannabis or the medical use of cannabis;*

40 (9) *Not require the decertification of a peace officer solely*
41 *on the basis that the peace officer has engaged in the adult use of*
42 *cannabis or the medical use of cannabis; and*

43 (10) *Require the decertification of a peace officer upon a*
44 *determination by the Commission that the peace officer knowingly*



1 *provided false or misleading information in his or her application*
2 *for certification.*

3 *(b) An annual behavioral wellness visit for peace officers to*
4 *aid in preserving the emotional and mental health of the peace*
5 *officer and assessing any conditions that may affect the*
6 *performance of duties by the peace officer.*

7 **3. The regulations** adopted by the Commission ~~[1]~~ *pursuant to*
8 *subsection 2:*

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

11 ~~(b) [Must require that all peace officers receive training in the~~
12 ~~handling of cases involving abuse or neglect of children or missing~~
13 ~~children;~~

14 ~~—(c) Must require that all peace officers receive training in the~~
15 ~~handling of cases involving abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation~~
16 ~~and abandonment of older persons or vulnerable persons; and~~

17 ~~—(d)]~~ May require that training be carried on at institutions which
18 it approves in those regulations.

19 **4. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a law**
20 **enforcement agency from adopting a policy that requires a peace**
21 **officer to submit to a screening test as :**

22 *(a) A condition precedent to employment; or*

23 *(b) A condition for continued employment.*

24 **Sec. 8.** NRS 289.530 is hereby amended to read as follows:

25 289.530 **1.** With the advice of the Commission, the Executive
26 Director of the Commission may:

27 ~~[1.]~~ **(a)** Appoint employees, agents, consultants and other staff
28 of the Commission and prescribe their duties;

29 ~~[2.]~~ **(b)** Administer and direct the daily operation of the staff
30 and resources of the Commission;

31 ~~[3.]~~ **(c)** Inspect academies for training peace officers, and issue
32 and revoke certificates of approval to such academies;

33 ~~[4.]~~ **(d)** Certify qualified instructors for approved courses of
34 training for peace officers and issue appropriate certificates to
35 instructors;

36 ~~[5.]~~ **(e)** Certify peace officers who have satisfactorily completed
37 courses of training for peace officers and issue basic, intermediate,
38 advanced and management professional certificates to peace
39 officers;

40 ~~[6.]~~ **(f)** Make recommendations to the Commission concerning
41 the issuance of executive certificates;

42 ~~[7.]~~ **(g)** Cause annual audits to be made relating to the operation
43 of academies for training peace officers;



1 ~~18.~~ (h) Consult and cooperate with academies for training
2 peace officers concerning the development of the basic and
3 advanced training programs for peace officers;

4 ~~19.~~ (i) Consult and cooperate with academies for training peace
5 officers concerning the development of specialized courses of study
6 in this State for peace officers in the areas of police science, police
7 administration, corrections, probation, the social sciences and other
8 related areas;

9 ~~10.~~ (j) Consult and cooperate with other departments and
10 agencies of this State and of local governments concerning the
11 training of peace officers;

12 ~~11.~~ (k) Report to the Commission at the regular meetings of
13 the Commission and at such other times as the Commission may
14 require, and recommend the denial, suspension or revocation of
15 certification of a peace officer to the Commission as deemed
16 necessary;

17 ~~12.~~ (l) Execute contracts on behalf of the Commission; and

18 ~~13.~~ (m) Perform any other acts necessary and appropriate to
19 the carrying out of the duties of the Executive Director of the
20 Commission.

21 *2. The Executive Director of the Commission shall, as soon*
22 *as reasonably practicable after revoking the certification of a*
23 *peace officer, report to the National Decertification Index of the*
24 *International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement*
25 *Standards and Training or an equivalent database maintained for*
26 *the purpose of serving as a national registry of certificate or*
27 *license revocation actions relating to peace officer misconduct:*

28 *(a) The name of the decertified peace officer; and*

29 *(b) Any other information possessed by the Commission and*
30 *required by the Index or database, as applicable.*

31 **Sec. 9.** NRS 289.555 is hereby amended to read as follows:

32 289.555 A person ~~[who has been convicted of a felony in this~~
33 ~~State or any other state]~~ is not qualified to serve as a category I
34 peace officer, category II peace officer or category III peace officer,
35 regardless of whether the person has ~~[been]~~ had his or her civil
36 rights restored ~~[to], if the [person's civil rights.]~~ person has been:

37 *1. Convicted of:*

38 *(a) A felony in this State or any other state, regardless of*
39 *whether such a conviction was expunged or sealed;*

40 *(b) A battery which constitutes domestic violence pursuant to*
41 *NRS 200.485, regardless of whether such a conviction was*
42 *expunged or sealed; or*

43 *(c) A misdemeanor crime of domestic violence, as defined in*
44 *18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(33), in any other state, regardless of whether*
45 *such a conviction was expunged or sealed.*



1 2. *Reported to the National Decertification Index of the*
2 *International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement and*
3 *Training or an equivalent database maintained for the purpose of*
4 *servng as a national registry of certificate or license revocation*
5 *actions relating to peace officer misconduct.*

6 3. *Decertified or has had his or her certificate or license to*
7 *practice or serve as a peace officer revoked or annulled by:*

8 (a) *The Commission; or*

9 (b) *A certifying or licensing authority in any other state.*

10 **Sec. 10.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and
11 approval.

12 2. Sections 1 to 9, inclusive, of this act become effective:

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

16 (b) On October 1, 2023, for all other purposes.

