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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6113

BILL NUMBER: SB 271

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 4, 2004

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Law Enforcement Training Academy - MRDD Training.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Riegsecker

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Passed Senate

FUNDS AFFECTED: GENERAL
 DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires training in interacting with persons with mental illness, addictive disorders, mental retardation, and developmental disabilities for law enforcement personnel, jail officers, probation officers, and correctional officers. It requires that the training be provided by persons approved by the Secretary of Family and Social Services and the Law Enforcement Training Board. The bill also requires that the Commissioner of the Department of Correction give priority in issuing community corrections grants to programs that provide alternative sentencing projects for persons with mental illness, addictive disorders, mental retardation, and developmental disabilities. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the Indiana Commission on Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities and the Indiana Commission on Mental Health.)

Effective Date: July 1, 2004.

Summary of Net State Impact: This bill would increase state expenditures. Any increases in expenditures would, however, be minimal. Both the Department of Correction (DOC) and the Law Enforcement Training Board (LETB) would each necessitate funding to create a distance learning training module for employees. Additional money would be needed to modify the module annually. The LETB estimates it will cost \$40,000 to create the module, and \$10,000 annually to modify it. It is assumed that the DOC will need a similar amount. The creation of the training module will reduce training expenditures for counties; any reduction, however, is likely small.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill requires law enforcement personnel, jail officers, probation officers, and correctional officers to receive training in interacting with persons with mental illness, addictive disorders, mental retardation, and developmental disabilities. The training is required of: individuals attending law enforcement training schools; police officers completing in-service training; jail officers undergoing basic

training; and those individuals employed under the DOC who interact with the aforementioned populations. Individuals providing the training must be approved by the Secretary of Family and Social Services and the LETB. No additional cost is anticipated by either entity.

Law Enforcement Training Schools: There are four law enforcement training schools in Indiana; an average of 525 individuals graduate annually. Curricula for attendees is equal to 600 hours. It includes 20 hours relating to interacting with persons with mental illness, addictive disorders, mental retardation, and developmental disabilities. This exceeds the 6 hours required by this bill. The LETB is currently working in conjunction with the Commission on Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities to ensure that training covers appropriate areas. No additional cost is foreseen for any change that may be found necessary by the two groups.

In-Service Training: Currently, police officers are required to complete 16 hours of in-service training annually. In-service training is available from both the county of employment and the LETB's website. This bill would require police officers to attend an annual course in interacting with individuals with mental illness, addictive disorders, mental retardation, and developmental disabilities. The LETB estimates that it would cost \$40,000 to create a distance learning training module. An additional \$10,000 would be needed annually to modify the module. The training module would ensure that all officers across the state receive the same training. Local law enforcement agencies currently fund training themselves or through grants. The availability of this course through distance learning would reduce the costs to local law enforcement agencies. Additional funding for the course would not have to be secured.

Department of Correction (DOC) Training: This bill would require all DOC employees to complete a one-time 6-hour training on interacting with individuals with mental illness, addictive disorders, mental retardation, and developmental disabilities. DOC employees currently receive 2.5 to 3 hours of training in working with the aforementioned populations. This training occurs during the completion of preservice academy requirements. The DOC reports that it employs approximately 8,500 individuals that would fall under the requirements of this bill. Currently, DOC employees are required to complete 40 hours of in-service training annually. It is assumed that the requirements of this bill can be incorporated into the 40 hours. It is also assumed that the DOC can institute a distance learning course similar to that which will be offered by the LETB. Thus, in using the estimate of the LETB, it should cost the DOC no more than \$40,000 to create the module, and \$10,000 annually to modify it. It should, however, be noted that the module will only need to cover 3 to 3.5 hours of training (as opposed to the 6 hours required of the LETB). As a result, the cost for creation and modification may be reduced.

Jail Officer Training: An average of 200 new jail officers receive training under the auspice of the LETB annually. Currently, jail officers must complete a 40-hour basic training program. It includes two hours of training in working with individuals with mental illness, addictive disorders, mental retardation, and developmental disabilities. This bill requires six hours of training. The program will be adjusted to replace four hours of current training with the additional four hours required by this bill. No additional cost is anticipated.

Judicial Conference of Indiana: The Judicial Conference of Indiana reports that it can incorporate the requirements of this bill into current appropriations. It foresees no additional cost to work in conjunction with the Division of Mental Health and Addiction and the Division of Disability, Aging, and Rehabilitative Services to provide the probation department with training and technical assistance concerning mental illness, addictive disorders, mental retardation, and developmental disabilities.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *See Explanation of State Expenditures.*

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Law Enforcement Training Board, Department of Correction, Board of Directors of the Judicial Conference of Indiana.

Local Agencies Affected: Local law enforcement agencies.

Information Sources: Scott Mellinger, Law Enforcement Training Board, 837-3255; Kristen Schunk, Family and Social Services Administration; Randy Koester, Department of Correction, 234-1693; Kathy Lisby, Department of Correction, 232-1926.

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