
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the sheriff division
2 of the department of public safety shoulders responsibilities
3 that are integral to preserving the public peace and safety.
4 Specifically, the division:

5 (1) Serves and protects the public, government officials,
6 and state personnel and property under its
7 jurisdiction, including at state facilities, lands,
8 harbors and airports, and within the jurisdictional
9 boundaries of the State of Hawaii, by providing law
10 enforcement services that incorporate patrols,
11 surveillance, and educational activities;

12 (2) Protects state judges and judicial proceedings,
13 secures judicial facilities, safely handles detained
14 persons, and provides secure transport for persons in
15 custody; and

16 (3) Executes arrest warrants for the judiciary and the
17 Hawaii paroling authority.



1 The legislature also finds that pursuant to Act 162,
2 Session Laws of Hawaii 2009, and House Concurrent Resolution
3 No. 92, H.D. 1 (2009), the auditor conducted a management audit
4 of the sheriff division, which found the division to be bereft
5 of the training and equipment necessary to fulfill its mission.
6 The audit recommended that the division seek accreditation from
7 the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies,
8 Inc. to help ensure that proper law enforcement standards are
9 met. The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement
10 Agencies, Inc., created in 1979, serves as a law enforcement
11 credentialing authority through collaboration with law
12 enforcement executive associations. The Honolulu and Maui
13 police departments are both accredited by the Commission on
14 Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., and the
15 auditor used the Commission's "Standards for Law Enforcement
16 Agencies", fifth edition, as a benchmark for its audit.

17 Like the auditor, the legislature recognizes that law
18 enforcement officers, such as those in the sheriff division,
19 have tremendous responsibilities, making the receipt of proper
20 training, equipment, and organizational support imperative.

21 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
22 public safety to seek and obtain accreditation for the sheriff



1 division from the Commission on Accreditation for Law
2 Enforcement Agencies, Inc.

3 SECTION 2. Chapter 353C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
5 and to read as follows:

6 "§353C- Department accreditation required. The
7 department shall pursue and obtain accreditation for the sheriff
8 division from the Commission on Accreditation for Law
9 Enforcement Agencies, Inc., no later than December 1, 2014."

10 SECTION 3. The department of public safety shall report to
11 the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening
12 of the regular session of 2012 on its progress in seeking
13 accreditation pursuant to section 2 of this Act. The report
14 shall also include a description of the accreditation process
15 and any problems or deficiencies that the department has
16 encountered or may encounter in obtaining the accreditation.

17 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

19



Report Title:

Department of Public Safety; Sheriff Division; Accreditation

Description:

Requires and sets a deadline for the department of public safety to pursue and obtain accreditation for the sheriff division from the Commission on Accreditation for law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. Report to legislature in 2012 regular session on progress and problems. (SD1)

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