
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 public safety
2 officers, including state deputy sheriffs, provide invaluable
3 societal contributions by risking their lives each day in
4 service to Hawaii's residents. The legislature also finds that
5 public safety officers are in a position of public trust as the
6 guardians and protectors of the State's communities. This role
7 requires extending respect and compassion to the people of the
8 State while also holding individuals accountable for criminal
9 conduct.

10 The legislature further finds that public safety officers
11 are frequently in harm's way and must quickly make difficult
12 decisions while under stress. The legislature finds that
13 because of the gravity of these decisions, the people of the
14 State and public safety officers themselves rely on and expect
15 thorough training and accountability.

16 The purpose of this Act is to support the role of public
17 safety officers by requiring the department of public safety to



1 consider training its deputy sheriffs in nonlethal use of force
2 and to appropriate funds for training, equipment, and related
3 records management.

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

7 "§353C- Nonlethal use of force training and equipment.

8 (a) The department shall develop policies and procedures to
9 govern the use of force, including policies related to training
10 and equipment. The director shall consider requiring all deputy
11 sheriffs appointed pursuant to this chapter to complete an
12 initial nonlethal use of force training course and comply with
13 subsequent annual training requirements.

14 (b) The department shall consider inclusion of the
15 following as part of any nonlethal use of force training
16 curricula developed pursuant to this section:

17 (1) De-escalation in patrol tactics and interpersonal
18 communication training, including tactical methods
19 that use time, distance, cover, and concealment to
20 avoid escalating situations that lead to violence;



- 1 (2) Alternatives to jail booking, arrest, or citation in
2 situations where appropriate;
- 3 (3) Information regarding implicit and explicit bias,
4 cultural competency, and the historical intersection
5 of race and policing;
- 6 (4) Skills, including de-escalation techniques, to
7 effectively, safely, and respectfully interact with
8 people with disabilities or behavioral health issues;
- 9 (5) "Shoot/don't shoot" scenario training;
- 10 (6) Alternatives to the use of physical or deadly force so
11 that de-escalation tactics and nonlethal alternatives
12 are part of the decision-making process leading up to
13 the consideration of the use of deadly force;
- 14 (7) Information regarding mental health and policing,
15 including bias;
- 16 (8) Community involvement in the delivery of training to
17 give a better understanding of community perspectives;
- 18 (9) Use of public service, including rendering first aid,
19 to provide a positive point of contact between law
20 enforcement officers and community members; and



1 (10) Use of specialized equipment for the deployment of
2 nonlethal force.

3 (c) The department is encouraged to:

4 (1) Provide training pursuant to this section alone or in
5 partnership with other law enforcement agencies or
6 contracted private parties, or authorize other law
7 enforcement agencies or contracted private parties to
8 provide the training; and

9 (2) Maintain records to monitor and track all training
10 activity pursuant to this section."

11 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the
14 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
15 2020-2021 for the development and implementation of nonlethal
16 use of force training and related records management for the
17 deputy sheriffs of the department of public safety.

18 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
19 of public safety for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the
2 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
3 2020-2021 for the purchase and maintenance of nonlethal
4 equipment, including weapons, for use by the department of
5 public safety deputy sheriffs certified in the nonlethal use of
6 force.

7 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
8 of public safety for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Public Safety; Deputy Sheriffs; Non-Lethal Weapons; Training; Acquisition; Appropriations

Description:

Requires the Director of Public Safety to develop policies and procedures to govern the use of force, including training and equipment, by deputy sheriffs. Requires the Director to consider requiring nonlethal use of force training. Encourages the Department of Public Safety to maintain training activity records. Appropriates funds. (HB456 HD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

