

LoS - MDPTSC Protocols.pdf

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Position: FAV

State of Maryland

Commission on Civil Rights

“Our vision is to have a State that is free from any trace of unlawful discrimination.”



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February 17, 2021

Senate Bill 608 – Public Safety – Maryland Police Training & Standards Commission **POSITION: Support**

Dear Chairperson Smith, Vice Chairperson Waldstreicher, and Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee:

The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights (“MCCR”; “The Commission”) is the State agency responsible for the enforcement of laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and state contracts based upon race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, physical and mental disability, and source of income.

Senate Bill 608 names the Secretary of State Police as the chair of the Maryland Public Safety Training & Standards Commission (“MPSTSC”). Under the bill, the MPSTSC is required to conduct job task analyses for entry-level police officers every 10 years beginning December 31, 2021, in addition to existing mandates. The MPSTSC is further required to post on its website and notify all law enforcement agencies on all training topics in the bill (including anti-discrimination, profiling, and use of force/de-escalation), as well as what training topics are required in the next calendar year. The MPSTSC must verify that certified police officers maintain certification in lifesaving techniques, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation. The bill further reforms standards for certifying and employing law enforcement officers, including decertification if the officer is convicted of a felony or misdemeanor with a penalty of more than 1 year.

The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights supports SB608 because inclusion of anti-discrimination, profiling, and use of force/de-escalation training will help to lay an important informational foundation in hopefully reducing acts of discrimination, bias, and misconduct when an officer is carrying out their duties. Additionally, by publishing these trainings online, the MPSTSC is creating an environment whereby the community can partner with the MPSTSC to ensure that any trainings offered and mandated are effective at meeting the community’s needs.

For these reasons and more, the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights urges a favorable vote on SB608. Thank you for your time and consideration of the information contained in this letter.

The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights looks forward to the continued opportunity to work with you to improve and promote civil rights in Maryland.

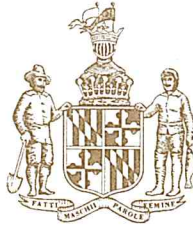
Jackson608.pdf

Uploaded by: Jackson, Michael

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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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TESTIMONY - SENATE BILL 608

***PUBLIC SAFETY – MARYLAND POLICE TRAINING AND
STANDARDS COMMISSION***

JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 17, 2020

Chairman Smith, Vice Chairman Waldstreicher, and Fellow Committee Members:

Senate Bill 608 is a piece of legislation that makes multiple changes to the work and administrative processes of the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission. As you all know, the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission sets the basic standards for the institutions that offer police and security training. Additionally, it creates the curriculum for police training schools along with the corresponding requirements for attendance and eligibility. Made up of twenty-four members, the Governor appoints eight members to three-year terms. Two senators are appointed by the Senate President, and two delegates by the House Speaker with twelve members serving ex officio.

The legislation makes changes to multiple facets of the commission. Chiefly among the changes are designating the Secretary of the State Police as the permanent chair of the commission, allowing non-Gubernatorial appointed members of the commission to designate representatives to attend meetings on their behalf, and multiple enhanced entry-level and in-service training requirements. Among the entry level and in-service training enhancements are requirements to supplement training in criminal laws related to rape and sexual abuse, human trafficking, and evidentiary procedures. Additionally, new training would be required in the areas of de-escalation in the use of force, the prevention of profiling, and in the recognition and prevention of discrimination based on race, color, religion or creed, national origin or ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, veteran status, genetic information, and citizenship status.

As someone who spent the majority of his professional career in law enforcement, ensuring that law enforcement professionals receive the most thorough and effective training possible is something that is very important to me. This legislation will help to provide officers with the tools necessary to do their jobs effectively and to ensure the successful performance of their duties.

For the reasons listed above, I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 608.

Police Training Commission - regulatory authority

Uploaded by: Jordan, Lisae C

Position: FAV



Working to end sexual violence in Maryland

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Testimony Supporting Senate Bill 608
Lisae C. Jordan, Executive Director & Counsel
February 17, 2021

The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA) is a non-profit membership organization that includes the State's seventeen rape crisis centers, law enforcement, mental health and health care providers, attorneys, educators, survivors of sexual violence and other concerned individuals. MCASA includes the Sexual Assault Legal Institute (SALI), a statewide legal services provider for survivors of sexual assault. MCASA represents the unified voice and combined energy of all of its members working to eliminate sexual violence. We urge the Judicial Proceedings Committee to report favorably on Senate Bill 608.

Senate Bill 608 – Maryland Police Training & Standards Commission

This bill strengthens the authority and responsibility of the Police Training and Standards Commission. Critically, it maintains current requirements and mandates that police receive entrance level training and training every three years on:

(I)THE CRIMINAL LAWS CONCERNING RAPE AND SEXUAL OFFENSES, INCLUDING THE SEXUALABUSE AND EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN AND RELATED EVIDENTIARY PROCEDURES;

(II)THE CRIMINAL LAWS CONCERNING HUMAN TRAFFICKING, INCLUDING SERVICES AND SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO VICTIMS AND THE RIGHTS AND APPROPRIATE TREATMENT OF VICTIMS;

(III)THE CONTACT WITH AND TREATMENT OF VICTIMS OF CRIMES AND DELINQUENT ACTS;

(IV)THE NOTICES, SERVICES, SUPPORT, AND RIGHTS AVAILABLE TO VICTIMS AND VICTIMS'REPRESENTATIVES UNDER STATE LAW;

MCASA also fully supports and urges enactment of mandated training in the recognition and prevention of discrimination. This is critical for fair and just application of criminal laws, including laws regarding sexual violence. Sexual violence disproportionately affects women: 91% of the victims of rape and sexual assault are female, and 9% are male. (Rennison, C. A. (2002). Rape and sexual assault: Reporting to police and medical attention, 1992-2000 [NCJ 194530]. Retrieved from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics). Sexual violence and trafficking also disproportionately affect Black women. The US Department of Justice found that African American girls and women 12 years and older experienced higher rates of rape and sexual assault than White, Asian, and Latina girls and women from 2005-2010. U.S. DOJ Bureau of Justice Statistics, "Female Victims of Sexual Violence, 1994-2010," 201. 40% of confirmed sex trafficking survivors in the U.S. are Black. Banks, Duren and Kyckelhahn, Tracey, " Characteristics of Suspected Human Trafficking Incidents, 2008-2010", The Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2011. Our law enforcement officers must have the training and tools to recognize and combat the discrimination and racism that contributes to these crimes.

**The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault urges the
Judicial Proceedings Committee to
report favorably on Senate Bill 608**

LOS Senate Bill 608 Final.pdf

Uploaded by: Liebno, Albert

Position: FAV



Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor

Police Training and Standards Commission
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BILL: SENATE BILL 608

POSITION: LETTER OF SUPPORT

EXPLANATION: SB 608 will align the contents of the Public Safety Article, §§ 3-201 through 3-218. The bill updates language, resulting from initial legislative passage, from "develop" to "maintain" for the numerous tasks the Police Training and Standards Commission (PTSC) has responsibility oversight for, establishes due dates for actions and/or reports the PTSC must compile and publish, aligns training mandates that have been added over time to a specific section and clarifies the requirements of the training mandated under § 3-207. SB 608 also clarifies language pertaining to police officer certification and updates processes that have been enhanced by technology.

COMMENTS:

- The Police Training and Standards Commission (PTSC) is an independent Commission housed within the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services that establishes standards and training for the approximately 16,000 certified police officers in the State.
- SB 608 mandates that every police officer must be certified, either provisionally or full certification, by the Commission and adds related regulatory language that does not currently exist.
- SB 608 will have a positive operational impact on the PTSC as it clarifies language that has been subjective and aligns training mandates.
- Additionally, the proposed changes remove the requirement to develop standards and policies that have already been developed and changes the language to the PTSC must maintain these standards and policies, monitoring them, and revising as necessary.

CONCLUSION: For these reasons, the Police Training and Standards Commission respectfully requests the Committee consider this information as it deliberates on Senate Bill 608.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheriff Troy Berry, Chair
Police Training and Standards Commission