



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