HOUSE BILL 634

By: **Delegates Kaufman, Amprey, Boafo, Boyce, Edelson, Fennell, Guzzone, Harrison, Hill, Hornberger, Lopez, McComas, Mireku–North, Ruth, Simmons, Stewart, Taylor, Terrasa, Turner, Vogel, Williams, Wims, Woods, Woorman, and Young**
Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2026
Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Police Training – Autism and Dementia**
3 **(LEAD Act of 2026)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission to
5   require entrance–level and in–service police training to include certain training
6   regarding individuals with dementia and autism; and generally relating to police
7   training.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9   Article – Public Safety
10   Section 3–207(a)(16)
11   Annotated Code of Maryland
12   (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

13   SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Public Safety

16 3–207.

17   (a)   The Commission has the following powers and duties:

18   (16)   to require, for entrance–level police training and, as determined by the
19 Commission, for in–service level training conducted by the State and each county and
20 municipal police training school, that the curriculum and minimum courses of study
21 include, consistent with established law enforcement standards and federal and State
22 constitutional provisions:

EXPLANATION: **CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**
   [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

1   (i)   training in lifesaving techniques, including Cardiopulmonary
2   Resuscitation (CPR);

3   (ii)   training in the proper level and use of force as set forth in the
4   Maryland Use of Force Statute under § 3–524 of this title;

5   (iii)   training regarding sensitivity to cultural and gender diversity;
6   **[**and**]**

7   (iv)   training regarding individuals with physical, intellectual,
8   developmental, and psychiatric disabilities; **AND**

9   **(V)   TRAINING REGARDING INDIVIDUALS WITH DEMENTIA AND**
10   **AUTISM, INCLUDING TRAINING FOR:**

11   **1.   LOCATING AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS WANDERING,**
12   **ELOPING, OR OTHERWISE MISSING;**

13   **2.   SEARCHING NEAR BODIES OF WATER;**

14   **3.   SENSORY–AWARE APPROACHES;**

15   **4.   REUNIFICATION;**

16   **5.   DOCUMENTATION; AND**

17   **6.   INTERAGENCY COORDINATION;**

18   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19   October 1, 2026.