

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 1, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 15, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 23, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE FEBRUARY 26, 2015

## SENATE BILL

**No. 11**

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**Introduced by Senators Beall and Mitchell**  
**(Coauthors: Senators Anderson, *Galgiani*, Hancock, Hertzberg,**  
**Leno, Liu, Monning, and Stone)**  
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chávez, Frazier, *Low*, and  
Maienschein)

December 1, 2014

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An act to add Sections 13515.26 and 13515.27 to the Penal Code, relating to peace officer training standards.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 11, as amended, Beall. Peace officer training: mental health.

Existing law requires specified categories of law enforcement officers to meet training standards pursuant to courses of training certified by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). Existing law requires POST to include in its basic training course adequate instruction in the handling of persons with developmental disabilities or mental illness, or both. Existing law also requires POST to establish and keep updated a continuing education classroom training course relating to law enforcement interaction with developmentally disabled and mentally ill persons.

This bill would require POST to include in its basic training course a promising or evidence-based behavioral health classroom training course and instructor-led active learning, such as scenario-based training,

to train law enforcement officers to recognize, deescalate, and refer persons with mental illness or intellectual disability who are in crisis. The bill would require that this promising or evidence-based behavioral health classroom training course and instructor-led active learning take place in the academy, be ~~at least~~ 20 hours long, and be in addition to the current hour requirement leading to the basic certificate issued by POST.

The bill would also require POST to establish and keep updated a promising or evidence-based behavioral health continuing training course that is equivalent in importance to the perishable skills training provided by POST. The bill would require that this promising or evidence-based behavioral health continuing training course be ~~a minimum of~~ 4 consecutive hours. The bill would require each law enforcement officer with a rank of supervisor or below and who is assigned to patrol duties or to supervise officers who are assigned to patrol duties to complete this course every 4 years.

By imposing additional training costs on local law enforcement agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 13515.26 is added to the Penal Code, to  
2     read:  
3     13515.26. (a) The Commission on Peace Officer Standards  
4     and Training shall establish and keep updated a promising or  
5     evidence-based behavioral health classroom training course and  
6     instructor-led active learning, such as scenario-based training,  
7     relating to law enforcement interaction with persons with mental  
8     illness as part of its basic training course for law enforcement  
9     officers. This promising or evidence-based behavioral health  
10    classroom training course and instructor-led active learning shall

1 train officers to recognize, deescalate, and refer persons with mental  
2 illness or intellectual disability who are in crisis.

3 (b) This promising or evidence-based behavioral health  
4 classroom training course and instructor-led active learning shall  
5 address issues relating to stigma, shall be culturally relevant and  
6 appropriate, and shall include all of the following topics:

7 (1) The cause and nature of mental illnesses and intellectual  
8 disabilities.

9 (2) (A) How to identify indicators of mental illness, intellectual  
10 disability, and substance use disorders.

11 (B) How to distinguish between mental illness, intellectual  
12 disability, and substance use disorders.

13 (C) How to respond appropriately in a variety of situations  
14 involving persons with mental illness, intellectual disability, and  
15 substance use disorders.

16 (3) Conflict resolution and deescalation techniques for  
17 potentially dangerous situations.

18 (4) Appropriate language usage when interacting with potentially  
19 emotionally distressed persons.

20 (5) Community and state resources available to serve persons  
21 with mental illness or intellectual disability, and how these  
22 resources can be best utilized by law enforcement.

23 (6) The perspective of individuals and families with lived  
24 experiences with persons with mental illness, intellectual disability,  
25 and substance use disorders.

26 (c) This promising or evidence-based behavioral health  
27 classroom training course and instructor-led active learning which  
28 will take place in the academy shall be ~~at least~~ 20 hours long and  
29 shall be in addition to the current hour requirement leading to the  
30 basic certificate issued by the Commission on Peace Officer  
31 Standards and Training.

32 SEC. 2. Section 13515.27 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

33 13515.27. (a) The Commission on Peace Officer Standards  
34 and Training shall establish and keep updated a promising or  
35 evidence-based behavioral health continuing training course  
36 relating to law enforcement interaction with persons with mental  
37 illness that is equivalent in its importance to the perishable skills  
38 training provided by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards  
39 and Training.

1 (b) This course shall be ~~at least~~ four consecutive hours and  
2 address issues related to stigma, shall be culturally relevant and  
3 appropriate, and shall include all of the following topics:

4 (1) The cause and nature of mental illness, intellectual disability,  
5 and substance use disorders.

6 (2) (A) How to identify indicators of mental illness, intellectual  
7 disability, and substance use disorders.

8 (B) How to distinguish between mental illness, intellectual  
9 disability, and substance use disorders.

10 (C) How to respond appropriately in a variety of situations  
11 involving persons with mental illness, intellectual disability, and  
12 substance use disorders.

13 (3) Conflict resolution and deescalation techniques for  
14 potentially dangerous situations.

15 (4) Appropriate language usage when interacting with potentially  
16 emotionally distressed persons.

17 (5) Community and state resources available to serve persons  
18 with mental illness or intellectual disability, and how these  
19 resources can be best utilized by law enforcement.

20 (6) The perspective of individuals and families with lived  
21 experiences with persons with mental illness, intellectual disability,  
22 and substance use disorders.

23 (c) Each law enforcement officer with a rank of supervisor or  
24 below and who is assigned to patrol duties or to supervise officers  
25 who are assigned to patrol duties shall complete the course  
26 described in subdivisions (a) and (b) every four years.

27 SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that  
28 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to  
29 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made  
30 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division  
31 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.