

SENATE, No. 2801

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED AUGUST 10, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator NELLIE POU

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator O'Scanlon

SYNOPSIS

Requires Police Training Commission to contract with crisis intervention training center to provide mental health training to police officers and establish curriculum specific to persons experiencing economic crisis or substance use disorder.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/2/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning police training and supplementing chapter 17B
2 of Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. a. The Police Training Commission in the Division of
8 Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety shall:

9 (1) annually contract with a crisis intervention training center to
10 assist and support counties in developing and implementing the
11 Crisis Intervention Team model. The Police Training Commission
12 shall assume and maintain any existing contract between a crisis
13 intervention training center and the Division of Mental Health and
14 Addiction Services in the Department of Human Services that is in
15 operation upon the effective date of this act. Upon the expiration of
16 that contract, any new contract entered into under this paragraph
17 between the Police Training Commission and a crisis intervention
18 training center shall include, at a minimum, the same provisions
19 that were contained in the expired contract executed by the Division
20 of Mental Health and Addiction Services;

21 (2) require every municipal police officer appointed to a police
22 department and force established pursuant to N.J.S.40A:14-118 and
23 every county police officer appointed to a police department and
24 force pursuant to N.J.S.40A:14-106, within five years of the
25 effective date of this act or by a date determined by the Attorney
26 General, to complete the Crisis Intervention Team model as part of
27 the officer's in-service training;

28 (3) develop and implement, in collaboration with the crisis and
29 intervention training center contracted with pursuant to this section,
30 a curriculum that applies the Crisis Intervention Team model to
31 persons experiencing an economic crisis or struggling with a
32 substance abuse disorder who come into contact with law
33 enforcement first responders.

34 b. The Police Training Commission shall adopt rules and
35 regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
36 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to effectuate the purposes of
37 this act.

38 c. As used in this section:

39 "Crisis Intervention Team model" means the best practice jail
40 diversion model originally developed by the Memphis Tennessee
41 Police Department and implemented in New Jersey as a county
42 based collaboration of professionals committed to improving the
43 law enforcement and mental health systems' response to persons
44 experiencing a psychiatric crisis who come into contact with law
45 enforcement first responders.

46 "Crisis intervention training center" means a program or entity
47 that has operated as a crisis intervention support center in the State
48 for a period of at least five years and is contracted, pursuant to

1 subsection a. of the section, to assist New Jersey counties in
2 developing and implementing the Crisis Intervention Team model.

3
4 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the thirteenth
5 month next following the date of enactment.

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8 STATEMENT

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10 This bill requires the Police Training Commission (PTC) in the
11 Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public
12 Safety to contract with a crisis intervention training center to assist and
13 support counties in developing and implementing the Crisis
14 Intervention Team model. The “Crisis Intervention Team model” is the
15 best practice jail diversion model originally developed by the
16 Memphis Tennessee Police Department and implemented in New
17 Jersey as a county based collaboration of professionals committed to
18 improving the law enforcement and mental health systems’ response to
19 persons experiencing a psychiatric crisis who come into contact with
20 law enforcement first responders. A “crisis intervention training
21 center” is defined as a program or entity that has operated as a crisis
22 intervention support center in the State for a period of at least five
23 years and is contracted under the bill to assist counties in developing
24 and implementing the Crisis Intervention Team model.

25 The bill directs the PTC to assume and maintain any existing
26 contract between a crisis intervention training center and the Division
27 of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) in the Department
28 of Human Services that is in operation on the bill’s effective date.
29 Upon the expiration of that contract, any new contract entered into
30 under the bill between a crisis intervention training center and the PTC
31 will need to include, at a minimum, the same provisions that were
32 contained in the expired contract executed by the DMHAS.

33 The bill also directs the PTC to: 1) require every municipal and
34 county police officer appointed to a police department and force in this
35 State, within five years of the bill’s effective date or by a date
36 determined by the Attorney General, to complete the Crisis
37 Intervention Team model as part of the officer’s in-service training;
38 and 2) develop and implement, in collaboration with the contracted
39 crisis intervention training center, a curriculum that applies the Crisis
40 Intervention Team model to persons experiencing an economic crisis
41 or struggling with a substance abuse disorder who come into contact
42 with law enforcement first responders.