



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 1009

January Session, 2021



AN ACT REQUIRING SOCIAL MEDIA POLICIES FOR POLICE DEPARTMENTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,
2 "social media" has the same meaning as provided in section 9-601 of the
3 general statutes and "law enforcement unit" and "police officer" have the
4 same meanings as provided in section 7-294a of the general statutes. Not
5 later than January 1, 2022, the Police Officer Standards and Training
6 Council shall develop a model policy concerning the use of social media
7 by law enforcement units and police officers while on duty. Such model
8 policy shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) guidelines regarding
9 the use of a social media account used by a law enforcement unit, (2) the
10 responsibilities of any person employed by the law enforcement unit
11 who manages and approves content to post on such social media
12 account, (3) procedures when the unauthorized use of such social media
13 account is detected, (4) guidelines to ensure compliance with any
14 applicable state or federal law, (5) guidelines regarding content suitable
15 and not suitable for posting on such social media account, and (6)
16 methods to limit indecent or obscene content on any such social media
17 account.

18 (b) Not later than July 1, 2022, each law enforcement unit shall adopt

19 and maintain a written policy that meets or exceeds the standards of the
20 model policy developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:
In subsection (a), the first sentence was added for clarity.

PS *Joint Favorable Subst.*