
OLR Bill Analysis

SHB 6840 (as amended by House "A")*

AN ACT EXPANDING MEMBERSHIP OF THE POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL, REQUIRING GUIDELINES REGARDING BODY-WORN RECORDING EQUIPMENT AND REQUIRING A REPORT REGARDING CONDUCT THAT UNDERMINES PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT.

SUMMARY

Beginning January 1, 2024, this bill increases the membership of the Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POST) from 21 members to 23 by adding two new members, one appointed by the Public Safety and Security Committee chairs and one by the Senate and House minority leaders. The appointees must be sworn police officers who are not in command positions within their law enforcement units.

Under current law, the council consists of 21 members: 11 appointed by the governor, six legislative appointments, and four serving ex-officio (the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) commissioner and FBI special agent-in-charge for Connecticut, or their designees, and the chief state's attorney and Connecticut State Police Academy's commanding officer).

As under existing law, appointed members serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority for a term coterminous with their appointing authority (CGS § 4-1a). The law additionally deems a member to have resigned from POST if he or she misses three consecutive meetings or 50% of the meetings held during any calendar year.

*House Amendment "A" removes (1) an exception for exigent circumstances to state law's general requirement that police officers use body-worn recording equipment (i.e., body cameras) while interacting with the public and (2) a requirement for DESPP and POST to submit a report on police officer conduct that undermines public confidence in

law enforcement.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2024

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 23 Nay 2 (03/16/2023)