

Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Office of Research and Drafting Legislative Budget Office



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Version: As Reported by House Homeland Security

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Miranda and Abrams

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- If new chief of police training is offered at locations other than the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy, appointing political subdivisions may realize a negligible savings in terms of travel and lodging. The exemption of newly appointed chiefs that have previously worked full time as a chief from the training would also create some savings, including the time (40 hours) that otherwise would have been spent to attend the training.
- The bill has no direct fiscal effect on the state.

Detailed Analysis

The bill modifies requirements for chiefs of police training including the locations where the training may be held and certain exemptions for the training. The bill also allows the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC) to establish and conduct police officer training courses to be offered to law enforcement officers at or above the rank of sergeant. The bill is not expected to increase costs for the Attorney General or political subdivisions, but rather create certain efficiencies in the management and administration of the required training for newly appointed chiefs of police.

Under the bill, the chief of police training course is required to be conducted at locations and in a manner determined by OPOTC, instead of at the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy (OPOTA) as under current law. Mandatory training for newly appointed chiefs went into effect in 2018 and had been held at OPOTA's main campus in London, Ohio until 2020. The course is currently held in Columbus as a result of the closure of the dormitories and cafeteria at the London campus. OPOTA has five regional training partners. The outcome of permitting the training to be held at one of the regional facilities or centrally in Columbus would create a savings effect for appointing political subdivisions in terms of travel and lodging, as would the exemption of newly appointed chiefs that have previously worked full time as a chief from the training.

Under current law and unchanged by the bill, all newly appointed chiefs must attend this training within six months of appointment. Statewide, between 50 and 100 new police chiefs are appointed each year by Ohio law enforcement agencies. The cost for the Commission to conduct the 40-hour (five days) training is approximately \$2,000 per class. Two classes are held annually for a total cost of \$4,000, paid by the Attorney General from the Ohio Law Enforcement Training Fund (Fund 5LR0). These costs primarily are related to instructor fees. There are no registration fees for chiefs of police paid by political subdivisions to offset these costs.

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