



Substitute House Bill No. 5360

Public Act No. 23-69

AN ACT CONCERNING FIREARM INCIDENT REPORTS AND A TASK FORCE ON RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF POLICE OFFICERS.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) For purposes of this section, "police officer" and "law enforcement unit" have the same meanings as provided in section 7-294a of the general statutes, and "firearm" has the same meaning as provided in section 53a-3 of the general statutes.

(b) On and after October 1, 2023, a police officer who responds to an alleged crime or a fatality that involves the use of a firearm shall complete a firearm incident report using the form prescribed by the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, whether or not an arrest occurs.

(c) Each law enforcement unit shall send all firearm incident reports to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, who shall compile statistics of firearm incidents and cause them to be published annually in the report required pursuant to subsection (e) of section 29-1c of the general statutes. An offense shall be counted for each incident reported to the police. A zero shall be reported if no incidents

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have occurred during the reporting periods.

(d) Not later than October 1, 2023, for the purpose of establishing accurate data on the extent and severity of firearm incidents in the state, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall prescribe a form for making firearm incident reports. The form shall include, but need not be limited to, the following: (1) Name of the individual or individuals involved in the alleged crime or fatality; (2) the location, time and date of the incident; (3) the number and identification of the firearm or firearms involved; (4) whether the alleged crime was committed by, or the fatality was caused by, a person who had a prior conviction that prohibited such person from legally possessing a firearm; (5) whether the alleged crime was committed with, or the fatality was caused by, an illegally possessed or unregistered firearm; and (6) any other data that may be necessary for a complete analysis of all circumstances of firearm incidents in the state.

(e) Each law enforcement unit shall forward a copy of the firearm incident report to the state's attorney for the appropriate judicial district in cases where an arrest has been made.

(f) Not later than January 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection shall tabulate and compile data from the firearm incident reports and report such compilation, to the Governor and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.

Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to study and make recommendations regarding the recruitment and retention of police officers in the state.

(b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

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- (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
 - (2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;
 - (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of Representatives;
 - (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;
 - (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;
 - (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;
 - (7) The Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, or the commissioner's designee; and
 - (8) Two persons appointed by the Governor.
- (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member of the General Assembly.
- (d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority.
- (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.
- (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

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(g) Not later than January 1, 2024, the task force shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety and security, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2024, whichever is later.

Approved June 26, 2023