STATE OF NEW YORK

1642

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 13, 2023

Introduced by Sens. TEDISCO, BORRELLO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance

AN ACT to amend the executive law, the general municipal law and the town law, in relation to requiring police officers to attend annual diversity training seminars

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "law enforcement diversity and conflict mitigation training act".

§ 2. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 214-i to read as follows:

§ 214-i. Mandatory diversity training. 1. The superintendent shall, for all members of the state police:

(a) develop, maintain and disseminate written policies and procedures requiring all state police officers and supervisors to attend annual diversity seminars providing training in the areas of diversity and inclusion, including training pertaining to appropriate sensitivity to issues of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age and disability;

(b) establish, and implement on an ongoing basis, a training program for all current and new state police officer employees regarding the policies and procedures established pursuant to this section; and

(c) provide information pertaining to such policies and procedures to municipal law enforcement agencies and departments for implementation by such agencies and departments, together with contact information for entities or individuals conducting such training as described in subdivision two of this section.

2. The superintendent shall contract with non-police professionals with expertise in the areas of implicit bias, anger management, and diversity training to conduct the diversity seminars as described in subdivision one of this section. The seminars shall be attended by at

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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least one law enforcement official who will accentuate the importance of conflict reduction and the appropriate procedures used for the safety of the alleged perpetrator, witnesses and the officers themselves.

3. Funding for the seminars shall be procured from seized asset funds and the budget of the state division of criminal justice services and shall be disbursed in the form of grants to municipalities.

4. The conduct of diversity seminars as provided in this section shall commence no later than January first, two thousand twenty-four.

§ 3. The general municipal law is amended by adding a new section 208-i to read as follows:

§ 208-i. Mandatory police officer diversity training. The chief officer of every police department and sheriff's office in the state shall, for all members of such office or department, establish, and implement a diversity training seminar program for all current and new officer employees. Such program shall include annual training regarding the diversity policies and procedures established pursuant to section two hundred fourteen-i of the executive law and shall be conducted in accordance with standards established by the superintendent of the state police. Each officer of the department shall be required to attend a diversity seminar on an annual basis. Funding for such seminars shall be provided to municipalities pursuant to subdivision three of section two hundred fourteen-i of the executive law.

§ 4. The town law is amended by adding a new section 155-a to read as follows:

§ 155-a. Mandatory police officer diversity training. The chief officer of every town police department shall, for all members of such office, establish, and implement a diversity training seminar program for all current and new officer employees. Such program shall include annual training regarding the diversity policies and procedures established pursuant to section two hundred fourteen-i of the executive law and shall be conducted in accordance with standards established by the superintendent of the state police. Each officer of the department shall be required to attend a diversity seminar on an annual basis. Funding for such seminars shall be provided to municipalities pursuant to subdivision three of section two hundred fourteen-i of the executive law.

§ 5. This act shall take effect immediately.