

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to autism awareness training for law
3 enforcement officers; creating s. 943.1727, F.S.;
4 requiring the Department of Law Enforcement to
5 establish a continued employment training component
6 relating to autism spectrum disorder; providing a
7 definition; specifying instruction to be included in
8 the training component; providing that completion of
9 the training may count toward continued employment
10 instruction requirements; providing an effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. Section 943.1727, Florida Statutes, is created
15 to read:

16 943.1727 Continued employment training relating to autism
17 spectrum disorder.—The department shall establish a continued
18 employment training component relating to autism spectrum
19 disorder as defined in s. 627.6686. The training component shall
20 include, but need not be limited to, instruction on the
21 recognition of the symptoms and characteristics of an individual
22 on the autism disorder spectrum and appropriate responses to an
23 individual exhibiting such symptoms and characteristics.
24 Completion of the training component may count toward the 40
25 hours of instruction for continued employment or appointment as

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26 | a law enforcement officer required under s. 943.135.

27 | Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2017.