

By the Committee on Health, Aging and Long-Term Care; and  
Senator Meek

317-1842-02

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to training requirements for  
3           emergency medical technicians, paramedics,  
4           firefighters, law enforcement officers,  
5           correctional officers, and correctional  
6           probation officers; amending ss. 401.2715,  
7           633.35, 943.135, F.S.; authorizing the  
8           substitution of a specified number of hours of  
9           qualifying terrorism response training for a  
10          like number of hours of training required for  
11          certification; authorizing rulemaking;  
12          providing an effective date.

13  
14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
15

16           Section 1. Subsection (4) is added to section  
17 401.2715, Florida Statutes, to read:  
18           401.2715 Recertification training of emergency medical  
19 technicians and paramedics.--

20           (4) Any certified emergency medical technician or  
21 paramedic may, as a condition of recertification, complete up  
22 to 8 hours of training to respond to terrorism, as defined in  
23 s. 775.30, and such hours completed may be substituted on a  
24 hour-for-hour basis for any other areas of training required  
25 for recertification. The department may adopt rules necessary  
26 to administer this subsection.

27           Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 633.35, Florida  
28 Statutes, is amended to read:

29           633.35 Firefighter training and certification.--  
30           (1) The division shall establish a firefighter  
31 training program of not less than 360 hours, administered by

1 such agencies and institutions as it approves for the purpose  
2 of providing basic employment training for firefighters. Any  
3 firefighter may, as a condition of certification, complete up  
4 to 8 hours of training to respond to terrorism, as defined in  
5 s. 775.30, and such hours completed may be substituted on a  
6 hour-for-hour basis for any other areas of training required  
7 for certification. The division may adopt rules necessary to  
8 administer this subsection.Nothing herein shall require a  
9 public employer to pay the cost of such training.

10 Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 943.135, Florida  
11 Statutes, is amended to read:

12 943.135 Requirements for continued employment.--

13 (1) The commission shall, by rule, adopt a program  
14 that requires all officers, as a condition of continued  
15 employment or appointment as officers, to receive periodic  
16 commission-approved continuing training or education. Such  
17 continuing training or education shall be required at the rate  
18 of 40 hours every 4 years, and up to 8 hours which may consist  
19 of training to respond to terrorism as defined in s. 775.30.

20 No officer shall be denied a reasonable opportunity by the  
21 employing agency to comply with this section. The employing  
22 agency must document that the continuing training or education  
23 is job-related and consistent with the needs of the employing  
24 agency. The employing agency must maintain and submit, or  
25 electronically transmit, the documentation to the commission,  
26 in a format approved by the commission. The rule shall also  
27 provide:

28 (a) Assistance to an employing agency in identifying  
29 each affected officer, the date of his or her employment or  
30 appointment, and his or her most recent date for successful  
31 completion of continuing training or education;

1 (b) A procedure for reactivation of the certification  
2 of an officer who is not in compliance with this section; and

3 (c) A remediation program supervised by the training  
4 center director within the geographic area for any officer who  
5 is attempting to comply with the provisions of this subsection  
6 and in whom learning disabilities are identified. The officer  
7 shall be assigned nonofficer duties, without loss of employee  
8 benefits, and the program shall not exceed 90 days.

9 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

10  
11 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
12 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
13 Senate Bill 1380

14 The Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 1380 authorizes the  
15 substitution of up to 8 hours of terrorism response training  
16 for a like number of hours of training required for  
17 recertification of emergency medical technicians and  
18 paramedics, and certification of firefighters. For purposes of  
19 the continued employment or appointment of law enforcement and  
20 correctional officers, the bill authorizes the Criminal  
21 Justice Standards and Training Commission to adopt up to 8  
22 hours of continuing training or education in training to  
23 respond to terrorism.  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31