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576-04114-16

Proposed Committee Substitute by the Committee on Appropriations  
(Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice)

A bill to be entitled

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

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

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

943.1727 Continued employment training relating to autism.-  
The department shall establish a continued employment training component relating to autism spectrum disorder. The training component shall include, but need not be limited to, instruction on the recognition of the symptoms and idiosyncrasies of an individual on the autism disorder spectrum and appropriate responses to a person exhibiting such symptoms and idiosyncrasies. Completion of the training component may count toward the 40 hours of instruction for continued employment or appointment as a law enforcement officer required under s. 943.135.

Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2016.