



156864

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

| Senate     | . | House |
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| Comm: RCS  | . |       |
| 04/08/2021 | . |       |
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Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice (Book)  
recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Section 154.012, Florida Statutes, is created to  
read:

154.012 Sexual assault response teams; membership; duties.-

(1) The health department in every county in this state, or  
its designee, shall participate in the local sexual assault  
response team coordinated by the certified rape crisis center



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11 serving the county if such a team exists. If a local sexual  
12 assault response team does not exist, the certified rape crisis  
13 center serving the county may coordinate with community partners  
14 to establish a local or a regional team. The purpose of the  
15 sexual assault response team is to ensure a coordinated  
16 multidisciplinary response to sexual violence.

17 (2) Each team shall develop a written protocol to govern  
18 the team's response to sexual assault which includes:

19 (a) The role and responsibilities of each team member.

20 (b) Procedural issues regarding the immediate crisis and  
21 health care and law enforcement responses and followup services  
22 provided to a victim.

23 (c) Procedures for the preservation, secure storage, and  
24 destruction of evidence from a sexual assault evidence kit,  
25 including length of storage, site of storage, and chain of  
26 custody.

27 (d) Procedures for maintaining the confidentiality of the  
28 victim regarding the forensic medical examination.

29 (3) Membership of each team shall be determined by the  
30 certified rape crisis center in collaboration with community  
31 partners. At a minimum, membership should include the following  
32 persons or their designees:

33 (a) The director of the local certified rape crisis center;

34 (b) A representative from the county health department;

35 (c) The state attorney;

36 (d) The chief of police;

37 (e) The county sheriff;

38 (f) Forensic sexual assault nurse examiners; and

39 (g) A representative from local hospital emergency



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40 departments.

41 (4) The Florida Council Against Sexual Violence shall  
42 provide technical assistance relating to the development and  
43 implementation of the teams.

44 (5) Each team shall promote and support the use of  
45 qualified sexual assault forensic examiners who have  
46 successfully completed a minimum of 40 hours of specialized  
47 training in the provision of trauma-informed medical care and in  
48 the collection of evidence for sexual assault victims.

49 Section 2. Subsection (7) is added to section 943.17,  
50 Florida Statutes, to read:

51 943.17 Basic recruit, advanced, and career development  
52 training programs; participation; cost; evaluation.—The  
53 commission shall, by rule, design, implement, maintain,  
54 evaluate, and revise entry requirements and job-related  
55 curricula and performance standards for basic recruit, advanced,  
56 and career development training programs and courses. The rules  
57 shall include, but are not limited to, a methodology to assess  
58 relevance of the subject matter to the job, student performance,  
59 and instructor competency.

60 (7) The commission, in consultation with the Florida  
61 Council Against Sexual Violence, shall establish minimum  
62 standards for basic and advanced career development training  
63 programs for law enforcement officers that include a culturally  
64 responsive trauma-informed response to sexual assault. After  
65 July 1, 2022, every basic skills course required for law  
66 enforcement officers to obtain initial and continuing education  
67 certification must include training on culturally responsive  
68 trauma-informed interviewing of sexual assault victims and



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69 investigations of alleged sexual assaults.

70 Section 3. Section 943.1724, Florida Statutes, is created  
71 to read:

72 943.1724 Training on sexual assault.-

73 (1) The commission shall incorporate a culturally  
74 responsive trauma-informed response to sexual assault into the  
75 course curriculum required for a law enforcement officer to  
76 obtain initial certification.

77 (2) Each law enforcement officer must successfully complete  
78 training on sexual violence and interviewing and investigations  
79 of sexual assault victims, with an emphasis on culturally  
80 responsive trauma-informed interviewing of sexual assault  
81 victims and alleged sexual assault investigations as a part of  
82 the basic recruit training, as required under s. 943.13(9),  
83 training required under s. 943.131(4) (a), or as a part of  
84 continuing training or education required under s. 943.135(1),  
85 before July 1, 2024. If an officer fails to complete the  
86 required training, his or her certification must be placed on  
87 inactive status until the employing agency notifies the  
88 commission that the officer has completed the training.

89 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

90  
91 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

92 And the title is amended as follows:

93 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
94 and insert:

95 A bill to be entitled  
96 An act relating to victims of sexual offenses;  
97 creating s. 154.012, F.S.; requiring counties to



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98 establish sexual assault response teams; providing for  
99 duties, membership, and technical assistance;  
100 requiring teams to promote the use of sexual assault  
101 forensic examiners meeting certain requirements;  
102 amending s. 943.17, F.S.; requiring the Criminal  
103 Justice Standards and Training Commission, in  
104 consultation with the Florida Council Against Sexual  
105 Violence, to establish minimum standards for basic and  
106 advanced career development training programs for law  
107 enforcement officers that include a culturally  
108 responsive trauma-informed response to sexual assault;  
109 requiring every basic skills course for law  
110 enforcement officers to include certain training by a  
111 specified date; creating s. 943.1724, F.S.; requiring  
112 the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission  
113 to incorporate a culturally responsive trauma-informed  
114 response to sexual assault into a certain course  
115 curriculum; requiring each certified law enforcement  
116 officer to successfully complete a specified number of  
117 hours of training on sexual violence and interviewing  
118 of sexual assault victims and investigations of  
119 alleged sexual assault within a specified timeframe;  
120 providing requirements for current law enforcement  
121 officers; providing an effective date.