

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1167

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE WALTON GRAY.

2525L.01I

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

Relating to special purpose districts' employment of police officers, with a penalty provision and an emergency clause.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section 1. 1. The board of directors of any ambulance, fire protection, school or other special purpose district of this state may appoint and employ as many district police officers as they may deem necessary to protect persons, property, and to preserve peace and good order only in the public buildings, properties, grounds, and other facilities and locations over which they have charge or control.

2. The district police officers, before they enter upon their duties, shall take and subscribe an oath of office before some officer authorized to administer oaths, to faithfully and impartially discharge the duties thereof, which oath shall be filed in the office of the district board of directors, and the secretary of the board shall give each district police officer so appointed and qualified a certificate of appointment, under the seal of the board of directors, which certificate shall empower him or her with the same authority to maintain order, preserve peace and make arrests as is now held by peace officers; the district police officer may in addition expel from the public buildings, campuses, and grounds, persons violating the rules and regulations that may be prescribed by the board of directors or others under the authority of the board. Such officer or employee of the district as may be designated by the board of directors shall have immediate charge, control and supervision of district police officers appointed by authority of this section. Except for any district police officers licensed as peace officers under chapter 590, RSMo, such district police officers shall have satisfactorily completed before appointment, or

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

20 before entering upon their duties, a training course for district police officers which shall
21 consist of at least three hundred twenty hours as prescribed by the superintendent of the
22 Missouri state highway patrol. The district shall reimburse all such district police officers
23 appointed by them who complete the training course for all reasonable and necessary
24 expenses incurred in taking the training course, and shall reimburse the highway patrol
25 for any expenses directly relating to the prescribed or holding of a training course which
26 are recommended by the patrol.

27 3. Nothing herein shall be construed as denying the board of directors the right to
28 appoint guards or watchmen who shall not be given the authority and powers hereby
29 authorized.

30 4. Any person violating the rules and regulations that may be prescribed by the
31 board of directors or any ordinance or law enacted for the preservation of peace is hereby
32 declared to be guilty of a class B misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be
33 punished as is provided by law or ordinance or rule or regulation therefore:

34 (1) The legal officer or district attorney shall serve ex-officio as a special assistant
35 prosecuting attorney for the county in which the violation occurs and shall prosecute such
36 violations in the associate circuit court of that county. Nothing herein shall be construed
37 as denying the county or city prosecutor from prosecuting any violation of ordinances or
38 law; or

39 (2) The board may adopt a specific ordinance to impose a fine or a series of fines
40 for breaches of the peace of not more than five hundred dollars. The accused person may
41 either appear in court at a set date or make payment to the officer appointed by the board,
42 either in person or through the United States mail, with the moneys handled as are all
43 other moneys of the district. If the fine is not paid by the deadline imposed, the violation
44 and the failure to pay the fine or appear in court at the set date may be further prosecuted
45 as provided in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

Section A. Because immediate action is necessary to protect persons and property and
2 to preserve peace and good order in areas controlled by special purpose districts the enactment
3 of section one of this act is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health,
4 welfare, peace, and safety, and is hereby declared to be an emergency act within the meaning of
5 the constitution, and the enactment of section one of this act shall be in full force and effect upon
6 its passage and approval.

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