

HCS HB 1866 -- PEACE OFFICER LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

This bill provides cause for the Director of Public Safety to deny an application for a peace officer license or to deny entrance into a basic training course when the applicant had a peace officer license or certification that was revoked or surrendered.

Currently, any school district within the state can designate one or more elementary or secondary school teachers or administrators as a school protection officer. This bill gives charter schools the same ability and it replaces "elementary or secondary school teachers or administrators" with "employees of the district or charter school". An employee of a charter school who seeks to be designated as a school protection officer must request the designation in writing to the executive director of the charter school or the governing board. This bill also adds "projectile" to the definition of "self-defense spray device".

The bill allows each school district and charter school to consider implementing a school protection officer program. If implementing such a program, the school board of each school district and the governing board of each charter school must hold a public hearing and determine by a vote at the hearing whether to implement the program.

For each school year ending before July 1, 2027, each school district and charter school must include in its teacher and school employee training a component on how to properly respond to students who provide them with information about a threatening situation and how to address situations in which there is a potentially dangerous or armed intruder in the school. Trainings must also include information and techniques on how to address active shooter situations. Currently, these provisions are permitted but not required.

The bill requires the POST Commission to establish requirements for the continuing education of all school protection officers. All school protection officers must receive 20 hours annually of firearms skill development training.