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AB-2992 Peace officer training: commercial sexual exploitation of children. (2017-2018)

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Assembly Bill No. 2992

CHAPTER 973

An act to add Section 13516.5 to the Penal Code, relating to peace officer training.

[Approved by Governor September 30, 2018. Filed with Secretary of State September 30, 2018.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2992, Daly. Peace officer training: commercial sexual exploitation of children.

Existing law establishes the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training, and, among other duties, requires the commission to provide various specified courses of training for peace officers.

This bill would require the commission to develop a course on commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) and victims of human trafficking. The bill would require the course to include specified topics and components including, among others, recognizing indicators of commercial sexual exploitation, appropriate interviewing techniques, local and state resources available to first responders, and issues of stigma. The bill would require the course to be equitable to a course that the commission produces for officers as part of continuing professional training and include facilitated discussions and learning activities, including scenario training exercises. The bill would require the commission to develop the course in consultation with survivors, agencies, and advocates, as specified.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 13516.5 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

13516.5. (a) The commission shall develop and implement a course or courses of instruction for the training of peace officers in California on commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) and victims of human trafficking that shall include, but not be limited to, the following topics and activities:

- (1) The dynamics of commercial sexual exploitation of children.
- (2) The impact of trauma on child development and manifestations of trauma in victims of commercial sexual exploitation.
- (3) Strategies to identify potential victims of commercial sexual exploitation, including indicators that a youth is being exploited.
- (4) Mandatory reporting requirements related to commercial sexual exploitation.
- (5) Appropriate interviewing, engagement, and intervention techniques that avoid retraumatizing the victim and promote collaboration with victim-serving agencies.

(6) Introduction to the purpose, scope, and use of specialized child victim interview resources.

(7) Local and state resources that are available to first responders.

(8) Perspectives of victims and their families.

(9) Issues of stigma.

(10) Any other critical topics identified by subject matter experts.

(b) The course of instruction shall be equivalent to a course that the commission produces for officers as part of continuing professional training and shall include facilitated discussions and learning activities, including scenario training exercises.

(c) The training described in subdivision (a) shall be developed with input from survivors of commercial sexual exploitation, the appropriate local and state agencies, and advocates that have expertise in CSEC and human trafficking. These shall include, but not be limited to, the California Child Welfare Council's CSEC Action Team, organizations that provide services specifically to sexually exploited children, and public agencies leading or participating in interagency responses to commercially sexually exploited children.