REGULAR SESSION 2024

MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

By: Representatives Summers, Karriem, Taylor, Thompson, Brown, Sanders, Hulum, Denton, Johnson, Jackson (45th), Nelson

To: Judiciary B; Appropriations A

HOUSE BILL NO. 828

AN ACT TO BE KNOWN AS THE "TRUST IN LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT"; TO REQUIRE THE OFFICE OF STANDARDS AND TRAINING WITHIN THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PLANNING IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO CREATE A SEARCHABLE DATABASE THAT ALLOWS THE PUBLIC TO ACCESS 5 INFORMATION REGARDING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' JOB PERFORMANCE; 6 TO REQUIRE THE DATABASE TO BE PUBLISHED ON THE WEBSITE OF THE 7 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BY JANUARY 1, 2025; TO SPECIFY CERTAIN INFORMATION RELATING TO A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S CONDUCT AND 8 9 PERFORMANCE WHICH MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE DATABASE; TO AUTHORIZE A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER TO REQUEST A REVIEW OF DATABASE 10 INFORMATION RELATING TO THE OFFICER; TO REQUIRE INFORMATION IN THE 11 12 DATABASE TO BE ACCURATE AND UPDATED AT LEAST MONTHLY; AND FOR 13 RELATED PURPOSES. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

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- 15 SECTION 1. (1) This section shall be known and may be cited 16 as the "Trust in Law Enforcement Act."
- The Office of Standards and Training within the Division 17 (2)
- of Public Safety Planning of the Department of Public Safety shall 18
- 19 create and maintain a searchable database that allows the public
- 20 to access certain information regarding a law enforcement
- 21 officer's job performance. The database must be implemented and
- published on the website of the Department of Public Safety no 22
- 23 later than January 1, 2025. The database must include information

- 24 relating to a law enforcement officer's conduct and performance,
- 25 including the officer's:
- 26 (a) Untruthfulness. For purposes of this section, the
- 27 term "untruthfulness" means a law enforcement officer knowingly
- 28 made an untruthful statement concerning a material fact or
- 29 knowingly omitted a material fact on an official criminal justice
- 30 record, while testifying under oath, or during an internal affairs
- 31 investigation or administrative investigation and disciplinary
- 32 process.
- 33 (b) Three (3) or more failures to follow the Board on
- 34 Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Training educational and
- 35 training requirements or to complete applicable continuing
- 36 education courses within a period of ten (10) consecutive years.
- 37 (c) Revocation of the certification by the Board on Law
- 38 Enforcement Officer Standards and Training, including the basis
- 39 for the revocation.
- 40 (d) Termination for cause by the law enforcement
- 41 officer's employer unless the termination is overturned or
- 42 reversed by an appellate process. A notation must be placed next
- 43 to the officer's name during the pendency of any appellate
- 44 process.
- 45 (e) Resignation or retirement while under investigation
- 46 by the law enforcement officer's employing law enforcement agency,
- 47 a district attorney or the Attorney General on a matter that could
- 48 result in the officer being entered into the database.

| 49 | (f) | Resignation | $\circ r$ | retirement | following | ı an | incident |
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- 50 that leads, within six (6) months following the law enforcement
- officer's resignation or retirement, to the opening of an
- 52 investigation that could result in the officer being entered into
- 53 the database.
- 54 (q) Being the subject of a criminal investigation for a
- 55 crime that could result in revocation or suspension of
- 56 certification or the filing of criminal charges. The
- 57 investigating agency shall notify the Office of Standards and
- 58 Training of the investigation or filing of criminal charges as
- 59 soon as practicable, so long as the notification is unlikely to
- 60 disrupt or impede an investigation.
- 61 (3) Law enforcement agencies shall report to the Office of
- 62 Standards and Training the information required in this section in
- 63 a format established by the office.
- 64 (4) A law enforcement officer may request a review of
- 65 information in the database relating to the officer. Upon the
- 66 receipt of evidence that supports a determination by the Office of
- 67 Standards and Training that the information in the database
- 68 relating to the officer is erroneous, the office must remove the
- 69 officer's name from the database immediately.
- 70 (5) The Office of Standards and Training shall update
- 71 information in the database on no less than a monthly basis and
- 72 shall make reasonable efforts to ensure data is current and
- 73 accurate. The Department of Public Safety does not quarantee full

- 74 accuracy and timeliness of data, makes no warranty as to content
- 75 accuracy, and assumes no liability for content errors or
- 76 omissions.
- 77 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this act shall be codified as a new
- 78 section in Chapter 6, Title 45, Mississippi Code of 1972.
- 79 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
- 80 and after July 1, 2024.

