

By: Warren

To: Education; Judiciary  
BHOUSE BILL NO. 1039  
(As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 37-7-321, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,  
2 TO REQUIRE SCHOOL SECURITY PERSONNEL AND EMPLOYEES EXERCISING THE  
3 POWERS OF A PEACE OFFICER TO RECEIVE A MINIMUM LEVEL OF BASIC LAW  
4 ENFORCEMENT TRAINING; TO AMEND SECTION 45-6-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
5 1972, TO REQUIRE THE BOARD ON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER STANDARDS  
6 AND TRAINING, ACTING JOINTLY WITH THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, TO  
7 PRESCRIBE THE REQUIRED MINIMUM TRAINING LEVEL FOR SUCH PERSONS;  
8 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

10 SECTION 1. Section 37-7-321, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
11 amended as follows:

12 37-7-321. (1) The school board of any school district  
13 within the State of Mississippi \* \* \*, in its discretion, may  
14 employ one or more persons as security personnel and may designate  
15 such persons as peace officers in or on any property operated for  
16 school purposes by such board upon their taking such oath and  
17 making such bond as required of a constable of the county in which  
18 the school district is situated.

19 (2) Any person employed by a school board as a security  
20 guard or school resource officer or in any other position that has  
21 the powers of a peace officer must receive a minimum level of  
22 basic law enforcement training, as jointly determined and  
23 prescribed by the Board on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and  
24 Training and the State Board of Education, within two (2) years of  
25 the person's initial employment in such position. Upon the  
26 failure of any person employed in such position to receive the  
27 required training within the designated time, the person may not  
28 exercise the powers of a peace officer in or on the property of  
29 the school district.

30       (3) The school board is authorized and empowered, in its  
31 discretion, and subject to the approval of the Federal  
32 Communications Commission, to install and operate a noncommercial  
33 radio broadcasting and transmission station for educational and  
34 vocational educational purposes.

35       SECTION 2. Section 45-6-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
36 amended as follows:

37       45-6-7. In addition to the powers conferred upon the board  
38 elsewhere in this chapter, the board shall have power to:

39           (a) Promulgate rules and regulations for the  
40 administration of this chapter, including the authority to require  
41 the submission of reports and information by law enforcement  
42 agencies of the state and its political subdivisions.

43           (b) Establish minimum educational and training  
44 standards for admission to employment or appointment as a law  
45 enforcement officer or a part-time law enforcement officer: (i)  
46 in a permanent position; and (ii) in a probationary status.

47           (c) Certify persons as being qualified under the  
48 provisions of this chapter to be law enforcement officers or  
49 part-time law enforcement officers.

50           (d) Revoke certification for cause and in the manner  
51 provided in this chapter.

52           (e) Establish minimum curriculum requirements for basic  
53 and advanced courses and programs for schools operated by or for  
54 the state or any political subdivision thereof for the specific  
55 purpose of training police and other law enforcement officers,  
56 both full- and part-time.

57           (f) Consult and cooperate with counties,  
58 municipalities, state agencies, other governmental agencies, and  
59 with universities, colleges, community and junior colleges and  
60 other institutions concerning the development of training schools,  
61 programs or courses of instruction for personnel defined in this  
62 chapter.

63           (g) Make recommendations concerning any matter within  
64 its purview pursuant to this chapter.

65           (h) Make such inspection and evaluation as may be  
66 necessary to determine if governmental units are complying with  
67 the provisions of this chapter.

68           (i) Approve law enforcement officer training schools  
69 for operation by or for the state or any political subdivision  
70 thereof for the specific purpose of training personnel defined in  
71 this chapter.

72           (j) Upon the request of agencies employing personnel  
73 defined in this chapter, conduct surveys or aid municipalities and  
74 counties to conduct surveys through qualified public or private  
75 agencies and assist in the implementation of any recommendations  
76 resulting from such surveys.

77           (k) Upon request of agencies within the purview of this  
78 chapter, conduct general and specific management surveys and  
79 studies of the operations of the requesting agencies at no cost to  
80 those agencies. The role of the board under this subsection shall  
81 be that of management consultant.

82           (l) Adopt and amend regulations consistent with law,  
83 for its internal management and control of board programs.

84           (m) Enter into contracts or do such things as may be  
85 necessary and incidental to the administration of this chapter.

86           (n) Establish jointly with the State Board of Education  
87 the minimum level of basic law enforcement training required of  
88 persons employed by school districts as school security guards, or  
89 school resource officers or in other positions that have the  
90 powers of a peace officer.

91           SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
92 and after July 1, 2000.