

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice

BILL: CS/SB 746

INTRODUCER: Criminal Justice Committee and Senator Lee and others

SUBJECT: Diabetes Awareness Training for Law Enforcement Officers

DATE: April 1, 2015 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Erickson</u>	<u>Cannon</u>	<u>CJ</u>	Favorable
2.	<u>Clodfelter</u>	<u>Sadberry</u>	<u>ACJ</u>	Favorable
3.	_____	_____	<u>FP</u>	_____

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 746 requires the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) to establish an online continued employment training component relating to diabetic emergencies. This component must include, at a minimum, recognition of symptoms of such an emergency, distinguishing such an emergency from alcohol intoxication or drug overdose, and appropriate first aid for such an emergency. Completion of the training component may count toward the 40 hours of instruction for continued employment or appointment as a law enforcement officer.

The FDLE indicates that the bill has no fiscal impact.

The bill has an effective date of October 1, 2015.

II. Present Situation:

The Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC) within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) establishes uniform minimum standards for the employment and training of full-time, part-time, and auxiliary law enforcement officers. Currently, every prospective officer must meet the minimum qualifications outlined in s. 943.13, F.S., successfully complete a CJSTC-developed basic recruit training program, and pass a statewide certification examination in order to receive their certification.

The CJSTC establishes basic skills training on a number of specific topics (e.g., domestic violence, interpersonal skills relating to diverse populations, and victim's assistance and rights).¹ Basic skills training on diabetic emergencies is not specially required by current Florida law but the FDLE states that the topics described in the bill are taught in the basic recruit training program.²

In order to maintain their certification, law enforcement officers must satisfy the continuing training and education requirements of s. 943.135, F.S. Law enforcement officers receive periodic CJSTC-approved training or education at the rate of 40 hours every 4 years. The CJSTC establishes continued employment training relating to specific topics (e.g., community policing, sexual offender and victim investigations, and interpersonal skills relating to diverse populations).³ This training counts toward the 40 hours of required instruction for continued employment. Current Florida law does not specifically require continued employment training relating to diabetic emergencies.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill creates s. 943.1726, F.S., which requires the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) to establish an online continued employment training component relating to diabetic emergencies. This component must include, at a minimum, recognition of symptoms of such an emergency, distinguishing such an emergency from alcohol intoxication or drug overdose, and appropriate first aid for such an emergency. Completion of the training component may count toward the 40 hours of instruction for continued employment or appointment as a law enforcement officer as required under s. 943.135, F.S.

The act may be cited as the "Arthur Green, Jr., Act."

The bill takes effect on October 1, 2015.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

¹ Sections 943.171, 943.175, and 943.172, F.S.

² Analysis of SB 746 (February 9, 2015), Florida Department of Law Enforcement (on file with the Senate Committee on Criminal Justice). The instruction includes learning modules on identifying signs and symptoms of a diabetic emergency, identifying treatment for a patient with a diabetic emergency, and identifying medical conditions with clues that may mimic alcohol or drug impairment to determine if a DUI investigation is warranted. *Id.*

³ Sections 943.1729, 943.17295, and 943.1758, F.S.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill creates section 943.1726 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Criminal Justice on March 16, 2015:

- Requires the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to establish an online continued employment training component relating to diabetic emergencies.
- Requires that this component include, at a minimum, recognition of symptoms of such an emergency, distinguishing such an emergency from alcohol intoxication or drug overdose, and appropriate first aid for such an emergency.
- Provides that completion of the training component may count toward the 40 hours of instruction for continued employment or appointment as a law enforcement officer.
- Provides that the bill takes effect on October 1, 2015.

B. Amendments:

None.