

SUBJECT: Continuing education requirements for private security officers

COMMITTEE: Public Safety — favorable, with amendment

VOTE: 6 ayes — B. Turner, Keel, Berman, Driver, Hupp, P. King  
0 nays  
3 absent — Gutierrez, Isett, Villarreal

WITNESSES: None

DIGEST: HB 3036 would establish minimum requirements for the Texas Commission on Private Security to develop a continuing education course for the renewal of a security officer commission.

The course would have to include at least two hours of instruction on the laws relating to:

- ! weapons and the use of deadly force;
- ! handgun use, proficiency and safety;
- ! nonviolent dispute resolution; and
- ! proper storage practices for handguns, with an emphasis on storage practices eliminating the possibility of accidental injury to a child.

At least two hours of instruction would be required on the relationship between law enforcement and private security. The course also would have to include other information that the director deemed appropriate. A commissioned security officer would be required to demonstrate handgun proficiency standards at least as stringent as those developed by the Texas Department of Public Safety within the 90-day period before his or her commission were renewed.

The bill would make other, nonsubstantive changes to sections of the Occupations Code and Vernon's Civil Statutes dealing with commissioned private security officers.

The bill as amended includes alternative provisions depending on whether HB 2812 by Wolens, making nonsubstantive corections to reconcile

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legislation enacted last session establishing the Occupations Code, were enacted. HB 3036 would prevail over any conflicts with that bill or any other acts of the 77th Legislature relating to nonsubstantive additions and corrections to the code.

HB 3036 would take effect on September 1, 2001.

NOTES:

The committee amendment would add alternative continuing education course requirements in the event that HB 2812 by Wolens was enacted.

HB 2812 by Wolens, making nonsubstantive corrective changes to various codes, passed the House on April 26 and has been referred to the Senate Administration Committee.

SB 1224 by Harris passed the Senate and was scheduled to be heard May 7 in the House Public Safety Committee. Among other provisions, the bill would amend the Occupations Code to add sec. 1702.309, containing the same requirements as those offered in HB 3036 if HB 2812 is not enacted.