

- SUBJECT:** Requiring training on law enforcement procedures during traffic stops
- COMMITTEE:** Homeland Security and Public Safety — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 8 ayes — P. King, Nevárez, Burns, Hinojosa, Holland, Metcalf, Schaefer, Wray
- 0 nays
- 1 absent — J. Johnson
- WITNESSES:** For — Chris Jones, Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas (CLEAT); Yannis Banks, Texas NAACP; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Kathryn Bedecarre, Martha Chang, Sukyi McMahan, Chas Moore, Lauren Oertel, and Lori Privitera, Austin Justice Coalition; TJ Patterson, City of Fort Worth; Bill Kelly, City of Houston Mayor's Office; Reginald Smith, Communities for Recovery; Fatima Mann, Counter Balance: ATX; Branden Johnson, East Texas Region of NAACP; Celina Moreno, MALDEF (Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund); Darwin Hamilton, Reentry Advocacy Project; Jimmy Rodriguez, San Antonio Police Officers Association; Dwight Harris, Texas AFT; Kathy Mitchell, Texas Criminal Justice Coalition; Joshua Houston, Texas Impact; Dana Blanton; Teresa Dozier; Michael Garcia; Elva Mendoza)
- Against — None
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Lauren Lacefield Lewis, Health and Human Services Commission; Raymond Pizarro, Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation; John Helenberg, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement)
- BACKGROUND:** Occupations Code, sec. 1701.253 requires the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement to establish minimum curriculum requirements for preparatory and advanced courses and programs for schools that train peace officers and others licensed by the commission.

Some have suggested that strengthening the education and training of citizens and police officers in Texas on traffic stop procedures could help decrease tensions associated with such stops, which have led to arguments, injuries, and even death.

**DIGEST:** HB 1864 would require the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement to establish a statewide education and training program for peace officers on proper procedures for traffic stops, including information on the appropriate use of force. An officer would be required to complete the program within two years after the officer was licensed or the date the officer applied for an intermediate proficiency certificate, whichever date was earlier. The program would have to be established as part of the minimum curriculum requirements by January 1, 2018.

The Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation would have to require that information relating to law enforcement procedures for traffic stops and appropriate interaction with law enforcement be included in the curriculum of each driver education course and driving safety course.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017.

**NOTES:** A companion bill, SB 30 by West, was approved by the Senate on March 29 and reported favorably by the House Homeland Security and Public Safety Committee on May 9.