**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 23‑23‑45 SO AS TO PROVIDE THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY MUST REQUIRE TRAINING ON THE PROPER USE OF TASERS AND CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES ON THE PROPER USE OF TASERS TO CERTIFY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Chapter 23, Title 23 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 23‑23‑45. (A) The director must require training courses on the proper use of tasers as part of the academy’s prescribed curriculum to certify law enforcement officers.

(B) A law enforcement officer certified in this State is required to complete Continuing Law Enforcement Education Credits (CLEEC) in training on the proper use of tasers annually. The number of required annual CLEEC hours training in the proper use of tasers shall be determined by the council. The training must be provided or approved by the academy and must include, but is not limited to, the following curriculum: verbal deescalation before the use of a taser, conflict management communication skills, common barriers to effective communication, deflecting and redirecting verbal abuse, establishing rapport, responding to crime scenes, crisis situation response in which an individual is experiencing a mental health or addictive disorder crisis, and recognizing special needs populations.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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