

HB 2611 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**Carrier:** Sen. Prozanski**Senate Committee On Judiciary**

Action Date: 04/25/17
Action: Do pass.
Vote: 5-0-0-0
Yeas: 5 - Dembrow, Linthicum, Manning Jr, Prozanski, Thatcher
Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Whitney Perez, Counsel

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Subject to collective bargaining or employment agreement, modifies existing law to require law enforcement unit that hires corrections officer originally hired by another unit to reimburse original unit for certain training expenses on same schedule as police officers. Requires original unit to request reimbursement in writing within six months. Eliminates requirement to reimburse employers for parole and probation officers' training expenses. Limits applicable expenses subject to reimbursement.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Allows officers to enter into own agreements with an agency
- Provides clarity to existing law by specifying timelines and qualifying expenses

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, governmental agencies that require and pay for training of an employee who is a state police officer, a police officer, a deputy sheriff, a corrections officer or a parole and probation officer are entitled to reimbursement of those training costs when the trained employee is subsequently employed by a different governmental agency. The original governmental agency is entitled to reimbursement for training costs for a state police officer, police officer or deputy sheriff as follows: 100 percent of the training costs when the subsequent employment begins within 12 months from the date the training is completed, 66 percent when the subsequent employment begins more than 12 but less than 24 months from the date training is completed, and 33 percent when the subsequent employment begins more than 24 but less than 36 months from the date training is completed. The reimbursement rate for governmental agencies employing corrections or parole and probation officers is as follows: 100 percent when the subsequent employment begins within 10 months from the date training is completed; 66 percent when the subsequent employment begins more than 10 but less than 20 months from the date training is completed; and 33 percent when the subsequent employment begins more than 20 but less than 30 months from the date training is completed. These reimbursement schedules are subject to an employment agreement between the agency and the employee, and any applicable collective bargaining agreement. The original employing governmental agency may also waive the reimbursement of training costs. Finally, governmental agencies may not take into consideration the reimbursement expenses when making employment decisions.

House Bill 2611 eliminates the reimbursement requirement for parole and probation officers. It modifies the repayment schedule for corrections officers to make it the same as for police officers. It replaces the waiver provision and instead requires that requests for reimbursement be made in writing within six months. It also limits what expenses are subject to reimbursement. Finally, HB 2611 makes technical amendments.