

## HB 2527 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Judiciary

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**Action Date:** 04/01/21

**Action:** Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 6-4-0-0

**Yeas:** 6 - Bynum, Dexter, Helm, Kropf, Power, Wilde

**Nays:** 4 - Lewis, Morgan, Noble, Wallan

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Channa Newell, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 2/18, 4/1

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires licensure of private security entities by Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST). Excludes private security providers on higher education campuses and special campus security providers from provisions of measure. Prohibits private security entity from discharging or discriminating against private security provider if the provider has made a compensation claim against the entity, has instituted a proceeding against the entity, or plans to testify regarding an unlawful private security practice. Requires DPSST to conduct an investigation into character, competency, and reliability of applicants for private security entity licensure. Provides opportunity to protest the issuance or renewal of a license. Specifies that person who hires unlicensed private security entity is jointly and severally liable for wage claims of employees or wage-related penalties. Allows DPSST or any person to bring action to enjoin any person from using unlicensed security entity or to prohibit person acting as unlicensed private security entity. Makes Class A violation for a private security entity to provide services without license and without providing internet address for DPSST webpage where information on private security entity's license may be accessed. Makes Class A violation for person to retain services of private security entity without first verifying webpage where information can be found. Allows and specifies license sanctions against private security entities after two or more violations. Requires that private security entities that employ armed private security professionals must ensure that firearm training requirements are completed with firearm that matches make, model, and caliber of firearm used by professional while performing private security services. Makes certain provisions operative January 1, 2024. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Regulation of private security businesses
- Exemption of private security providers on campuses due to Kaylee's Law (Senate Bill 576, 2019)
- Effect of measure on businesses and providers
- Examples of violations in wage and hours, discrimination, or harassment of private security providers by private security entity

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

#### BACKGROUND:

All persons who provide private security services must hold a certificate from the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST). Additionally, persons who serve as "executive managers" of a private security business must hold a separate license.

## **HB 2527 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

House Bill 2527 A requires licensure of private security entities by DPSST and provides a process for obtaining licensure, including an investigation into the character, competency, and reliability of the applicant. DPSST would also be able to sanction entities for violations. The measure provides whistleblower protections for private security providers, requires licensed entities to provide training on preventing workplace harassment, discrimination, and sexual assault, and requires those using the services of a private security entity to verify the licensure of the entity before hiring. HB 2527 A also requires entities to provide written statements of wage and deductions to private security professionals with each round of compensation and requires security providers who are armed to complete their firearm training with a firearm that matches the make, model, and caliber of the firearm used by the private security professionals in the scope of their duties.