

Senate Study Bill 3077 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE
ON JUDICIARY BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON HOGG)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring the department of public safety to develop
2 training standards for the use of electronic weapons,
3 including stun guns and tasers, by law enforcement agencies
4 throughout the state.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 80.45 Electronic weapons —
2 training course.

3 1. The department shall develop training standards for the
4 use of electronic weapons, including stun guns and tasers, by
5 law enforcement agencies throughout the state.

6 2. The training standards shall include the completion
7 of an electronic weapons safety course by peace officers and
8 jailers prior to the use of electronic weapons. The electronic
9 weapons safety course shall include but is not limited to the
10 following:

11 a. Developing a basic knowledge and understanding of
12 electronic weapons that encompasses their use, storage, and
13 maintenance.

14 b. Diagnosing malfunctions.

15 c. Identifying conditions and circumstances where the use of
16 electronic weapons is appropriate or inappropriate.

17 d. Identifying persons whose health may be severely impacted
18 by the use of electronic weapons.

19 3. The training standards shall also require law
20 enforcement agencies to do the following:

21 a. Conduct an annual review relating to the use of
22 electronic weapons within the agency.

23 b. Retrain peace officers and jailers as new electronic
24 weapons are purchased or as new techniques are developed.

25 c. Develop and adopt agency policies relating to the use of
26 electronic weapons.

27 4. The department shall adopt rules to administer this
28 section.

29 Sec. 2. IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT. Section 25B.2, subsection
30 3, shall not apply to this Act.

31 EXPLANATION

32 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
33 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

34 This bill requires the department of public safety to
35 develop training standards for the use of electronic weapons,

1 including stun guns and tasers, by law enforcement agencies
2 throughout the state.

3 Under the bill, the training standards shall include
4 the completion of an electronics weapons safety course by
5 peace officers and jailers prior to the use of such weapons.
6 The electronic weapons safety course shall include the
7 following: developing a basic knowledge and understanding
8 of the weapons that encompasses their use, storage, and
9 maintenance; diagnosing malfunctions; identifying conditions
10 and circumstances where the use of the weapons is appropriate
11 or inappropriate; and identifying persons whose health may be
12 severely impacted by the use of the weapons.

13 The training standards under the bill shall also require law
14 enforcement agencies to do the following: conduct an annual
15 review relating to the use of electronic weapons within the
16 agency, retrain peace officers and jailers as new electronic
17 weapons are purchased or as new techniques are developed,
18 and adopt agency policies relating to the use of electronic
19 weapons.

20 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
21 section 25B.3. The bill makes inapplicable Code section 25B.2,
22 subsection 3, which would relieve a political subdivision from
23 complying with a state mandate if funding for the cost of
24 the state mandate is not provided or specified. Therefore,
25 political subdivisions are required to comply with any state
26 mandate included in the bill.