

Senate File 2216 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2216

BY ZAUN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to law enforcement officer staffing

2 requirements for cities and counties.

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

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 80C.1 Law enforcement staffing
2 requirements.

3 Each city and county in the state shall be required to staff
4 a minimum number of law enforcement officers in each zip code
5 based on the population thresholds as follows:

6 1. Zip codes with populations up to five thousand persons
7 shall be staffed by a minimum of two law enforcement officers.

8 2. Zip codes with populations between five thousand one
9 persons and ten thousand persons shall be staffed by a minimum
10 of three law enforcement officers.

11 3. Zip codes with populations between ten thousand one
12 persons and twenty-five thousand persons shall be staffed by a
13 minimum of four law enforcement officers.

14 4. Zip codes with populations between twenty-five thousand
15 one persons and fifty thousand persons shall be staffed by a
16 minimum of five law enforcement officers.

17 5. Zip codes with populations between fifty thousand one
18 persons and one hundred thousand persons shall be staffed by a
19 minimum of six law enforcement officers.

20 6. Zip codes with populations exceeding one hundred
21 thousand persons shall be staffed by a minimum of seven law
22 enforcement officers.

23 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 80C.2 Staffing plan.

24 1. Each city or county shall develop and implement a
25 comprehensive staffing plan in accordance with the requirements
26 in this chapter.

27 2. The staffing plan shall specify the placement of law
28 enforcement officers within each zip code to ensure efficient
29 coverage, response times, and enforcement capabilities.

30 3. The staffing plan shall take into consideration
31 geographic factors, crime rates, calls for service,
32 demographics, and any other relevant factors to determine the
33 optimal placement and distribution of law enforcement officers
34 across zip codes within the jurisdiction.

35 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 80C.3 Factors for staffing

1 **adjustments.**

2 1. The department of public safety shall establish
3 guidelines for assessing staffing requirements, taking into
4 consideration all of the following:

5 a. Population size and growth trends.

6 b. Crime rates, and types of crimes within the city or
7 unincorporated area.

8 c. Geographic size and layout of the area within the city
9 or unincorporated area.

10 d. Special events or circumstances that may impact law
11 enforcement needs.

12 2. A city or unincorporated area may request an adjustment
13 to the city's or unincorporated area's staffing requirements
14 based upon the factors in subsection 1, subject to the approval
15 of the department of public safety.

16 **Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 80C.4 Reporting and compliance.**

17 1. Each law enforcement agency of a city or county shall
18 submit an annual report to the department of public safety
19 detailing the staffing levels of the law enforcement agency,
20 compliance with minimum requirements, and any adjustments made.

21 2. The department of public safety shall conduct periodic
22 audits to ensure compliance and may provide technical
23 assistance to a city or county to meet staffing requirements.

24 **Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. 80C.5 Enforcement and penalties.**

25 1. The department of public safety shall be responsible for
26 monitoring and enforcing the staffing requirements of section
27 80C.1.

28 2. A city or county found to be out of compliance with
29 staffing requirements may face penalties including but not
30 limited to the potential loss of state funding, reduction in
31 grants, or other appropriate sanctions.

32 3. A city or county may submit a plan to the department
33 of public safety for a temporary exemption or alternative
34 compliance, provided that the city or county can demonstrate
35 justifiable circumstances that prevent full compliance.

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EXPLANATION

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

This bill relates to law enforcement officer staffing requirements for cities and counties.

The bill provides that each city or county in the state shall be required to staff a minimum number of law enforcement officers in each zip code based on the population thresholds as follows: populations up to 5,000 persons shall be staffed by a minimum of two law enforcement officers; populations between 5,001 persons and 10,000 persons shall be staffed by a minimum of three law enforcement officers; populations between 10,001 persons and 25,000 persons shall be staffed by a minimum of four law enforcement officers; populations between 25,001 persons and 50,000 persons shall be staffed by a minimum of five law enforcement officers; populations between 50,001 persons and 100,000 persons shall be staffed by a minimum of six law enforcement officers; and populations exceeding 100,000 persons shall be staffed by a minimum of seven law enforcement officers.

The bill provides that each city or county shall develop and implement a comprehensive staffing plan that shall specify the placement of law enforcement officers within each zip code to ensure efficient coverage, response times, and enforcement capabilities, taking into consideration geographic factors, crime rates, calls for service, demographics, and any other relevant factors to determine the optimal placement and distribution of law enforcement officers across zip codes within the jurisdiction.

The bill provides that the department of public safety shall establish guidelines for assessing staffing requirements, taking into consideration all of the following: population size and growth trends; crime rates, and types of crimes within the city or county; geographic size and layout of the area within the city or county; and special events or circumstances

1 that may impact law enforcement needs. A city or county may
2 request adjustments to staffing requirements based upon the
3 factors listed, subject to the approval of the department of
4 public safety.

5 The bill provides that each law enforcement agency of a
6 city or county shall submit an annual report to the department
7 of public safety detailing the staffing levels of the law
8 enforcement agency, compliance with minimum requirements, and
9 any adjustments made. The department of public safety shall
10 conduct periodic audits to ensure compliance and may provide
11 technical assistance to a city or county to meet staffing
12 requirements.

13 The bill provides that the department of public safety
14 is responsible for monitoring and enforcing the staffing
15 requirements. A city or county found to be out of compliance
16 with staffing requirements may face penalties including the
17 potential loss of state funding, reduction in grants, or other
18 appropriate sanctions. A city or county may submit a plan
19 to the department of public safety for a temporary exemption
20 or alternative compliance, provided that the city or county
21 can demonstrate justifiable circumstances that prevent full
22 compliance.