

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2025-2026**

**S. B. No. 169**

**Senator Ingram  
Cosponsor: Senator Craig**

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To amend sections 109.71 and 109.79 and to enact 1  
section 109.7413 of the Revised Code to require 2  
training on emotional intelligence for peace 3  
officers. 4

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That sections 109.71 and 109.79 be amended and 5  
section 109.7413 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as 6  
follows: 7

**Sec. 109.71.** There is hereby created in the office of the 8  
attorney general the Ohio peace officer training commission. The 9  
commission shall consist of ten members appointed by the 10  
governor with the advice and consent of the senate and selected 11  
as follows: one member representing the public; one member who 12  
represents a fraternal organization representing law enforcement 13  
officers; two members who are incumbent sheriffs; two members 14  
who are incumbent chiefs of police; one member from the bureau 15  
of criminal identification and investigation; one member from 16  
the state highway patrol; one member who is the special agent in 17  
charge of a field office of the federal bureau of investigation 18  
in this state; and one member from the department of education 19  
and workforce, trade and industrial education services, law 20

enforcement training. 21

This section does not confer any arrest authority or any 22  
ability or authority to detain a person, write or issue any 23  
citation, or provide any disposition alternative, as granted 24  
under Chapter 2935. of the Revised Code. 25

Pursuant to division (A) (9) of section 101.82 of the 26  
Revised Code, the commission is exempt from the requirements of 27  
sections 101.82 to 101.87 of the Revised Code. 28

As used in sections 109.71 to 109.801 of the Revised Code: 29

(A) "Peace officer" means: 30

(1) A deputy sheriff, marshal, deputy marshal, member of 31  
the organized police department of a township or municipal 32  
corporation, member of a township police district or joint 33  
police district police force, member of a police force employed 34  
by a metropolitan housing authority under division (D) of 35  
section 3735.31 of the Revised Code, or township constable, who 36  
is commissioned and employed as a peace officer by a political 37  
subdivision of this state or by a metropolitan housing 38  
authority, and whose primary duties are to preserve the peace, 39  
to protect life and property, and to enforce the laws of this 40  
state, ordinances of a municipal corporation, resolutions of a 41  
township, or regulations of a board of county commissioners or 42  
board of township trustees, or any of those laws, ordinances, 43  
resolutions, or regulations; 44

(2) A police officer who is employed by a railroad company 45  
and appointed and commissioned by the secretary of state 46  
pursuant to sections 4973.17 to 4973.22 of the Revised Code; 47

(3) Employees of the department of taxation engaged in the 48  
enforcement of Chapter 5743. of the Revised Code and designated 49

by the tax commissioner for peace officer training for purposes	50
of the delegation of investigation powers under section 5743.45	51
of the Revised Code;	52
(4) An undercover drug agent;	53
(5) Enforcement agents of the department of public safety	54
whom the director of public safety designates under section	55
5502.14 of the Revised Code;	56
(6) An employee of the department of natural resources who	57
is a natural resources law enforcement staff officer designated	58
pursuant to section 1501.013, a natural resources officer	59
appointed pursuant to section 1501.24, a forest-fire	60
investigator appointed pursuant to section 1503.09, or a	61
wildlife officer designated pursuant to section 1531.13 of the	62
Revised Code;	63
(7) An employee of a park district who is designated	64
pursuant to section 511.232 or 1545.13 of the Revised Code;	65
(8) An employee of a conservancy district who is	66
designated pursuant to section 6101.75 of the Revised Code;	67
(9) A police officer who is employed by a hospital that	68
employs and maintains its own proprietary police department or	69
security department, and who is appointed and commissioned by	70
the secretary of state pursuant to sections 4973.17 to 4973.22	71
of the Revised Code;	72
(10) Veterans' homes police officers designated under	73
section 5907.02 of the Revised Code;	74
(11) A police officer who is employed by a qualified	75
nonprofit corporation police department pursuant to section	76
1702.80 of the Revised Code;	77

(12) A state university law enforcement officer appointed	78
under section 3345.04 of the Revised Code or a person serving as	79
a state university law enforcement officer on a permanent basis	80
on June 19, 1978, who has been awarded a certificate by the	81
executive director of the Ohio peace officer training commission	82
attesting to the person's satisfactory completion of an approved	83
state, county, municipal, or department of natural resources	84
peace officer basic training program;	85
(13) A special police officer employed by the department	86
of mental health and addiction services pursuant to section	87
5119.08 of the Revised Code or the department of developmental	88
disabilities pursuant to section 5123.13 of the Revised Code;	89
(14) A member of a campus police department appointed	90
under section 1713.50 of the Revised Code;	91
(15) A member of a police force employed by a regional	92
transit authority under division (Y) of section 306.35 of the	93
Revised Code;	94
(16) Investigators appointed by the auditor of state	95
pursuant to section 117.091 of the Revised Code and engaged in	96
the enforcement of Chapter 117. of the Revised Code;	97
(17) A special police officer designated by the	98
superintendent of the state highway patrol pursuant to section	99
5503.09 of the Revised Code or a person who was serving as a	100
special police officer pursuant to that section on a permanent	101
basis on October 21, 1997, and who has been awarded a	102
certificate by the executive director of the Ohio peace officer	103
training commission attesting to the person's satisfactory	104
completion of an approved state, county, municipal, or	105
department of natural resources peace officer basic training	106

program; 107

(18) A special police officer employed by a port authority 108  
under section 4582.04 or 4582.28 of the Revised Code or a person 109  
serving as a special police officer employed by a port authority 110  
on a permanent basis on May 17, 2000, who has been awarded a 111  
certificate by the executive director of the Ohio peace officer 112  
training commission attesting to the person's satisfactory 113  
completion of an approved state, county, municipal, or 114  
department of natural resources peace officer basic training 115  
program; 116

(19) A special police officer employed by a municipal 117  
corporation who has been awarded a certificate by the executive 118  
director of the Ohio peace officer training commission for 119  
satisfactory completion of an approved peace officer basic 120  
training program and who is employed on a permanent basis on or 121  
after March 19, 2003, at a municipal airport, or other municipal 122  
air navigation facility, that has scheduled operations, as 123  
defined in section 119.3 of Title 14 of the Code of Federal 124  
Regulations, 14 C.F.R. 119.3, as amended, and that is required 125  
to be under a security program and is governed by aviation 126  
security rules of the transportation security administration of 127  
the United States department of transportation as provided in 128  
Parts 1542. and 1544. of Title 49 of the Code of Federal 129  
Regulations, as amended; 130

(20) A police officer who is employed by an owner or 131  
operator of an amusement park that has an average yearly 132  
attendance in excess of six hundred thousand guests and that 133  
employs and maintains its own proprietary police department or 134  
security department, and who is appointed and commissioned by a 135  
judge of the appropriate municipal court or county court 136

pursuant to section 4973.17 of the Revised Code;	137
(21) A police officer who is employed by a bank, savings	138
and loan association, savings bank, credit union, or association	139
of banks, savings and loan associations, savings banks, or	140
credit unions, who has been appointed and commissioned by the	141
secretary of state pursuant to sections 4973.17 to 4973.22 of	142
the Revised Code, and who has been awarded a certificate by the	143
executive director of the Ohio peace officer training commission	144
attesting to the person's satisfactory completion of a state,	145
county, municipal, or department of natural resources peace	146
officer basic training program;	147
(22) An investigator, as defined in section 109.541 of the	148
Revised Code, of the bureau of criminal identification and	149
investigation who is commissioned by the superintendent of the	150
bureau as a special agent for the purpose of assisting law	151
enforcement officers or providing emergency assistance to peace	152
officers pursuant to authority granted under that section;	153
(23) A state fire marshal law enforcement officer	154
appointed under section 3737.22 of the Revised Code or a person	155
serving as a state fire marshal law enforcement officer on a	156
permanent basis on or after July 1, 1982, who has been awarded a	157
certificate by the executive director of the Ohio peace officer	158
training commission attesting to the person's satisfactory	159
completion of an approved state, county, municipal, or	160
department of natural resources peace officer basic training	161
program;	162
(24) A gaming agent employed under section 3772.03 of the	163
Revised Code;	164
(25) An employee of the state board of pharmacy designated	165

by the executive director of the board pursuant to section 166  
4729.04 of the Revised Code to investigate violations of 167  
Chapters 2925., 3715., 3719., 3796., 4729., and 4752. of the 168  
Revised Code and rules adopted thereunder. 169

(B) "Undercover drug agent" has the same meaning as in 170  
division (B) (2) of section 109.79 of the Revised Code. 171

(C) "Crisis intervention training" means training in the 172  
use of interpersonal and communication skills to most 173  
effectively and sensitively interview victims of rape. 174

(D) "Missing children" has the same meaning as in section 175  
2901.30 of the Revised Code. 176

(E) "Tactical medical professional" means an EMT, EMT- 177  
basic, AEMT, EMT-I, paramedic, nurse, or physician who is 178  
trained and certified in a nationally recognized tactical 179  
medical training program that is equivalent to "tactical combat 180  
casualty care" (TCCC) and "tactical emergency medical support" 181  
(TEMS) and who functions in the tactical or austere environment 182  
while attached to a law enforcement agency of either this state 183  
or a political subdivision of this state. 184

(F) "EMT-basic," "EMT-I," and "paramedic" have the same 185  
meanings as in section 4765.01 of the Revised Code and "EMT" and 186  
"AEMT" have the same meanings as in section 4765.011 of the 187  
Revised Code. 188

(G) "Nurse" means any of the following: 189

(1) Any person who is licensed to practice nursing as a 190  
registered nurse by the board of nursing; 191

(2) Any certified nurse practitioner, clinical nurse 192  
specialist, certified registered nurse anesthetist, or certified 193

nurse-midwife who holds a certificate of authority issued by the board of nursing under Chapter 4723. of the Revised Code;	194 195
(3) Any person who is licensed to practice nursing as a licensed practical nurse by the board of nursing pursuant to Chapter 4723. of the Revised Code.	196 197 198
(H) "Physician" means a person who is licensed pursuant to Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery.	199 200 201
(I) "County correctional officer" has the same meaning as in section 341.41 of the Revised Code.	202 203
(J) (1) "Fire investigator" means an employee of a fire department charged with investigating fires and explosions who has been authorized, in accordance with sections 737.27 and 3737.24 of the Revised Code, to perform the duties of investigating the origin and cause of fires and explosions using the scientific method to investigate elements of the event including the circumstances, actions, persons, means, and motives that resulted in the fire or explosion or the report of a fire or explosion within this state.	204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212
(2) "Fire investigator" does not include a person who is acting as a fire investigator on behalf of an insurance company or any other privately owned or operated enterprise.	213 214 215
(K) "Fire department" means a fire department of the state or an instrumentality of the state or of a municipal corporation, township, joint fire district, or other political subdivision.	216 217 218 219
(L) "At-risk youth" means an individual who is all of the following:	220 221



(1) Under twenty-one years of age;	222
(2) One of the following:	223
(a) At risk of becoming an abused, neglected, or dependent child, delinquent or unruly child, or juvenile traffic offender;	224 225
(b) An abused, neglected, or dependent child, delinquent or unruly child, or juvenile traffic offender.	226 227
(3) Residing in a state correctional institution, a department of youth services institution, or a residential facility.	228 229 230
(M) "Residential facility" has the same meaning as in section 2151.46 of the Revised Code.	231 232
(N) <u>"Emotional intelligence" means the ability to identify and manage a person's own emotions, as well as the emotions of others, and includes self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, and relationship management.</u>	233 234 235 236
<u><b>Sec. 109.7413.</b> The attorney general shall adopt, in accordance with Chapter 119. or pursuant to section 109.74 of the Revised Code, rules governing the training of peace officers on emotional intelligence. The rules shall specify the amount of training necessary for the satisfactory completion of basic training programs at approved peace officer training schools, other than the Ohio peace officer training academy and the time within which a peace officer is required to receive that training, if the peace officer is appointed as a peace officer before receiving that training.</u>	237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246
<b>Sec. 109.79.</b> (A) The Ohio peace officer training commission shall establish and conduct a training school for law enforcement officers of any political subdivision of the state	247 248 249

or of the state public defender's office. The school shall be 250  
known as the Ohio peace officer training academy. No bailiff or 251  
deputy bailiff of a court of record of this state and no 252  
criminal investigator employed by the state public defender 253  
shall be permitted to attend the academy for training unless the 254  
employing court of the bailiff or deputy bailiff or the state 255  
public defender, whichever is applicable, has authorized the 256  
bailiff, deputy bailiff, or investigator to attend the academy. 257

The Ohio peace officer training commission shall develop 258  
the training program, which shall include courses in both the 259  
civil and criminal functions of law enforcement officers, a 260  
course in crisis intervention with six or more hours of 261  
training, training in the handling of missing children and child 262  
abuse and neglect cases, training on emotional intelligence, and 263  
training on companion animal encounters and companion animal 264  
behavior, and shall establish rules governing qualifications for 265  
admission to the academy. The commission may require competitive 266  
examinations to determine fitness of prospective trainees, so 267  
long as the examinations or other criteria for admission to the 268  
academy are consistent with the provisions of Chapter 124. of 269  
the Revised Code. 270

The Ohio peace officer training commission shall determine 271  
tuition costs sufficient in the aggregate to pay the costs of 272  
operating the academy. Tuition paid by a political subdivision 273  
of the state or by the state public defender's office shall be 274  
deposited into the state treasury to the credit of the peace 275  
officer training academy fee fund, which is hereby established. 276  
The attorney general shall use money in the fund to pay costs 277  
associated with operation of the academy. The costs of acquiring 278  
and equipping the academy shall be paid from appropriations made 279  
by the general assembly to the Ohio peace officer training 280

commission for that purpose, from gifts or grants received for 281  
that purpose, or from fees for goods related to the academy. 282

The Ohio peace officer training commission shall create a 283  
gaming-related curriculum for gaming agents. The Ohio peace 284  
officer training commission shall use money distributed to the 285  
Ohio peace officer training academy from the Ohio law 286  
enforcement training fund to first support the academy's 287  
training programs for gaming agents and gaming-related 288  
curriculum. The Ohio peace officer training commission may 289  
utilize existing training programs in other states that 290  
specialize in training gaming agents. 291

The law enforcement officers, during the period of their 292  
training, shall receive compensation as determined by the 293  
political subdivision that sponsors them or, if the officer is a 294  
criminal investigator employed by the state public defender, as 295  
determined by the state public defender. The political 296  
subdivision may pay the tuition costs of the law enforcement 297  
officers they sponsor and the state public defender may pay the 298  
tuition costs of criminal investigators of that office who 299  
attend the academy. 300

If trainee vacancies exist, the academy may train and 301  
issue certificates of satisfactory completion to peace officers 302  
who are employed by a campus police department pursuant to 303  
section 1713.50 of the Revised Code, by a qualified nonprofit 304  
corporation police department pursuant to section 1702.80 of the 305  
Revised Code, or by a railroad company, who are amusement park 306  
police officers appointed and commissioned by a judge of the 307  
appropriate municipal court or county court pursuant to section 308  
4973.17 of the Revised Code, or who are bank, savings and loan 309  
association, savings bank, credit union, or association of 310

banks, savings and loan associations, savings banks, or credit unions, or hospital police officers appointed and commissioned by the secretary of state pursuant to sections 4973.17 to 4973.22 of the Revised Code, provided that no such officer shall be trained at the academy unless the officer meets the qualifications established for admission to the academy and the qualified nonprofit corporation police department; bank, savings and loan association, savings bank, credit union, or association of banks, savings and loan associations, savings banks, or credit unions; railroad company; hospital; or amusement park or the private college or university that established the campus police department prepays the entire cost of the training. A qualified nonprofit corporation police department; bank, savings and loan association, savings bank, credit union, or association of banks, savings and loan associations, savings banks, or credit unions; railroad company; hospital; or amusement park or a private college or university that has established a campus police department is not entitled to reimbursement from the state for any amount paid for the cost of training the bank, savings and loan association, savings bank, credit union, or association of banks, savings and loan associations, savings banks, or credit unions peace officers; the railroad company's peace officers; or the peace officers of the qualified nonprofit corporation police department, campus police department, hospital, or amusement park.

The academy shall permit investigators employed by the state medical board to take selected courses that the board determines are consistent with its responsibilities for initial and continuing training of investigators as required under sections 4730.26 and 4731.05 of the Revised Code. The board shall pay the entire cost of training that investigators receive

at the academy. 342

The academy shall permit tactical medical professionals 343  
and fire investigators to attend training courses at the academy 344  
that are designed to qualify the professionals and investigators 345  
to carry firearms while on duty under sections 109.771 and 346  
109.774 of the Revised Code and that provide training comparable 347  
to training mandated under the rules required by division (A) of 348  
section 109.748 and division (A) of section 109.7481 of the 349  
Revised Code. The executive director of the Ohio peace officer 350  
training commission may certify tactical medical professionals 351  
and fire investigators who satisfactorily complete the training 352  
courses. The law enforcement agency served by a tactical medical 353  
professional or the political subdivision served by a fire 354  
investigator who attends the academy may pay the tuition costs 355  
of the professional or investigator. 356

The academy shall permit county correctional officers to 357  
attend training courses at the academy that are designed to 358  
qualify the county correctional officers to carry firearms while 359  
on duty under section 109.772 of the Revised Code and that 360  
provide training mandated under the rules required by section 361  
109.773 of the Revised Code. The executive director of the Ohio 362  
peace officer training commission may certify county 363  
correctional officers who satisfactorily complete the training 364  
courses. The county jail, county workhouse, minimum security 365  
jail, joint city and county workhouse, municipal-county 366  
correctional center, multicounty-municipal correctional center, 367  
municipal-county jail or workhouse, or multicounty-municipal 368  
jail or workhouse served by the county correctional officer who 369  
attends the academy may pay the tuition costs of the county 370  
correctional officer. 371

(B) As used in this section:	372
(1) "Law enforcement officers" include any undercover drug agent, any bailiff or deputy bailiff of a court of record, and any criminal investigator who is employed by the state public defender.	373 374 375 376
(2) "Undercover drug agent" means any person who:	377
(a) Is employed by a county, township, or municipal corporation for the purposes set forth in division (B)(2)(b) of this section but who is not an employee of a county sheriff's department, of a township constable, or of the police department of a municipal corporation or township;	378 379 380 381 382
(b) In the course of the person's employment by a county, township, or municipal corporation, investigates and gathers information pertaining to persons who are suspected of violating Chapter 2925. or 3719. of the Revised Code, and generally does not wear a uniform in the performance of the person's duties.	383 384 385 386 387
(3) "Crisis intervention training" has the same meaning as in section 109.71 of the Revised Code.	388 389
(4) "Missing children" has the same meaning as in section 2901.30 of the Revised Code.	390 391
(5) "Companion animal" has the same meaning as in section 959.131 of the Revised Code.	392 393
<b>Section 2.</b> That existing sections 109.71 and 109.79 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.	394 395