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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION**

HOUSE FILE No. 2735

February 12, 2008

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety and Civil Justice

March 6, 2008

Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:

To Pass and re-referred to the Committee on Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to public safety; funding peace officer training in managing and policing
1.3 citizens with mental and emotional problems; appropriating funds.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. **MANAGING AND POLICING CITIZENS WITH MENTAL AND**
1.6 **EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS.**

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Training course.** The Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training
1.8 must solicit proposals for and certify a training course of at least four hours to educate
1.9 peace officers in the best practices of managing and policing citizens with mental and
1.10 emotional problems. The course must address the following components:

- 1.11 (1) types and forms of mental illness, including their symptoms;
- 1.12 (2) the impact that mental illnesses have on individuals, families, and communities;
- 1.13 (3) stabilization and de-escalation techniques for peace officers;
- 1.14 (4) alternatives for managing citizens with mental illness;
- 1.15 (5) community resources available to citizens with mental illness; and
- 1.16 (6) legal issues pertaining to the mentally ill, including civil commitment and data
1.17 practices.

1.18 In selecting an entity to teach the course, the board shall give preference to proposals
1.19 that (1) expose course participants to persons with mental illness and to community
1.20 mental health professionals and (2) incorporate role playing and group problem-solving
1.21 exercises. In preparing the board's selection criteria, its staff and members should review
1.22 a report published by the Justice Center of the Council of State Governments entitled
1.23 "Improving Response to People with Mental Illness: The Essentials of a Specialized
1.24 Police-Based Program."

2.1 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

2.2 \$..... is appropriated in fiscal year 2009 from the general fund to the executive
2.3 director of the Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training to reimburse officers for
2.4 participating in courses that address managing and policing citizens with mental and
2.5 emotional problems. Of this amount, \$..... is for reimbursement grants to participants in
2.6 the course described in section 1. Of this amount, \$..... is for reimbursement grants to
2.7 participants in a 40-hour or more course that meets the standards of the Memphis Crisis
2.8 Intervention Team Model. The board may fully or partially reimburse peace officers
2.9 who complete the training. The board may require law enforcement agencies to match
2.10 any partial reimbursement.