

ASSEMBLY, No. 4515

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED AUGUST 10, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman SHAVONDA E. SUMTER

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT

District 31 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblyman Johnson, Assemblywomen Vainieri Huttie, Jasey,
Assemblymen Wimberly and Conaway**

SYNOPSIS

Requires AG to establish law enforcement officer use of force data collection and reporting system.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/27/2020)

1 AN ACT establishing a law enforcement officer use of force data
2 collection and reporting system and supplementing chapter 17B
3 of Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

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8 1. a. For the purposes of this section:

9 "Law enforcement agency" means a department, division,
10 bureau, commission, board, or other authority of the State or of any
11 political subdivision thereof which employs law enforcement
12 officers.

13 "Law enforcement officer" means any person who is employed
14 as a permanent full-time member of a law enforcement agency and
15 is statutorily empowered to act as an officer for the detection,
16 apprehension, arrest, and conviction of offenders against the laws of
17 this State.

18 b. The Attorney General shall establish and implement an
19 electronic data collection and reporting system for tracking every
20 incident of use of force by a law enforcement officer appointed to
21 any law enforcement agency in this State.

22 c. Every law enforcement agency in the State shall utilize a
23 standardized reporting form prescribed by the Attorney General for
24 recording data describing each incident of use of force by a law
25 enforcement officer.

26 d. The data collection and reporting system shall include a
27 secure portal through which law enforcement agencies can
28 electronically submit use of force data to the system.

29 e. The data collection and reporting system shall be searchable
30 by law enforcement agencies and members of the public.

31 f. The Attorney General shall develop guidelines to ensure
32 accurate and secure transmission, storage, scrubbing, and analysis
33 of the data in the data collection and reporting system required by
34 this section.

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36 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the seventh
37 month next following enactment, but the Attorney General may take
38 any anticipatory action in advance of that date as may be necessary for
39 the timely implementation of this act.

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STATEMENT

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44 This bill requires the Attorney General to establish and
45 implement an electronic data collection and reporting system for
46 tracking incidents of use of force by law enforcement officers in
47 this State.

A4515 SUMTER, REYNOLDS-JACKSON

1 Law enforcement agencies are required by the bill to use a
2 standard reporting form prescribed by the Attorney General to
3 record data describing each incident of use of force by a law
4 enforcement officer. The data on these forms is to be uploaded to
5 the database through a secure portal.

6 The bill requires the data collection and reporting system to be
7 searchable by law enforcement agencies and members of the public.
8 The Attorney General is required to develop guidelines to ensure
9 accurate and secure transmission, storage, scrubbing, and analysis
10 of the data in the data collection and reporting system.

11 The Attorney General currently is operating a pilot “Police Use
12 of Force Portal” program in six municipalities (Bridgeton, Dover,
13 Linden, Millville, Paterson, and South Brunswick). The goal is to
14 establish a Statewide, uniform database to aggregate data and
15 compare information across agencies. Reportedly, the database was
16 to be accessible to all law enforcement agencies by July 1, 2020 and
17 be accessible to the public at a later date.