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**REPORTS:**

974.90 New Jersey. Legislature. General Assembly Task Force on Domestic Violence.  
W872 Findings and recommendation...July 1998.  
1998c

**HEARINGS:**

Yes

974.90 New Jersey. Legislature. Assembly Task Force on Domestic Violence.  
W872 Public hearing held 3-6-98. Trenton, 1998  
1998a

974.90 New Jersey. Legislature. Assembly Task Force on Domestic Violence.  
W872 Public hearing held 12-5-97. Trenton, 1997.  
1997a

974.90 New Jersey. Legislature. Assembly Task Force on Domestic Violence.  
W872 Public hearing held 3-20-98. Trenton, 1998.  
1998b

974.90 New Jersey. Legislature. Assembly Task Force on Domestic Violence.  
W872 Public hearing held 1-23-98. Trenton, 1998.  
1998

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:**

No

P.L. 1999, CHAPTER 433, *approved January 18, 2000*  
Assembly No. 2786 (*Second Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning domestic violence training for law enforcement  
2 officers, <sup>1</sup>[and],<sup>1</sup> amending <sup>2</sup>[<sup>1</sup>and supplementing<sup>1</sup>]<sup>2</sup> P.L.1991,  
3 c.261 <sup>2</sup>and making an appropriation<sup>2</sup>.

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

7  
8 1. Section 4 of P.L 1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-20) is amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 4. a. (1) The Division of Criminal Justice shall develop and  
11 approve a training course and curriculum on the handling,  
12 investigation and response procedures concerning reports of domestic  
13 violence and abuse and neglect of the elderly and disabled. This  
14 training course and curriculum shall be reviewed at least every two  
15 years and modified by the Division of Criminal Justice from time to  
16 time as need may require. The Division of Criminal Justice shall  
17 distribute the curriculum to all local police agencies.

18 (2) The Attorney General shall be responsible for ensuring that all  
19 law enforcement officers attend initial training within 90 days of  
20 appointment or transfer and ~~[biannual]~~ annual inservice training of at  
21 least four hours as described in this section.

22 b. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall develop and  
23 approve a training course and a curriculum on the handling,  
24 investigation and response procedures concerning allegations of  
25 domestic violence. This training course shall be reviewed at least  
26 every two years and modified by the Administrative Office of the  
27 Courts from time to time as need may require.

28 The Administrative Director of the Courts shall be responsible for  
29 ensuring that all judges and judicial personnel attend initial training  
30 within 90 days of appointment or transfer and biannual inservice  
31 training as described in this section.

32 The Division of Criminal Justice and the Administrative Office of  
33 the Courts shall provide that all training on the handling of domestic  
34 violence matters shall include information concerning the impact of  
35 domestic violence on society, the dynamics of domestic violence, the  
36 statutory and case law concerning domestic violence, the necessary  
37 elements of a protection order, policies and procedures as promulgated  
38 or ordered by the Attorney General or the Supreme Court, and the use  
39 of available community resources, support services, available sanctions

**EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:**

<sup>1</sup> Senate SBA committee amendments adopted October 18, 1999.

<sup>2</sup> Senate floor amendments adopted November 15, 1999.

1 and treatment options. Law enforcement agencies shall [either]: (1)  
2 establish domestic crisis teams or participate in established domestic  
3 crisis teams, and (2) shall train individual officers in methods of  
4 dealing with domestic violence and neglect and abuse of the elderly  
5 and disabled. The teams may include social workers, clergy or other  
6 persons trained in counseling, crisis intervention or in the treatment of  
7 domestic violence and neglect and abuse of the elderly and disabled  
8 victims.

9 (cf: P.L.1994, c.93, s.2)

10

11 <sup>2</sup>[<sup>1</sup>2. (New section) The Attorney General shall make available,  
12 subject to the approval of the Director of the Division of Budget and  
13 Accounting in the Department of the Treasury, from the resources of  
14 the Division of Criminal Justice, and in cooperation with other State  
15 departments, such assistance as is necessary to allow law enforcement  
16 agencies to effectuate the amendatory provisions of section 1 of  
17 P.L. ., c. (now pending before the Legislature as this bill) regarding  
18 the agencies' obligation under those provisions to establish or  
19 participate in domestic crisis teams and to train individual officers in  
20 methods of dealing with domestic violence and neglect and abuse of  
21 the elderly and disabled.<sup>1</sup>]<sup>2</sup>

22

23 <sup>2</sup>2. (New section) There is appropriated \$250,000 from the  
24 General Fund to the Department of Community Affairs for the purpose  
25 of reimbursing local law enforcement agencies for the costs of  
26 implementing the training required by this act.<sup>2</sup>

27

28 <sup>1</sup>[2.] 3.<sup>1</sup> This act shall take effect immediately.

29

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32

33 Clarifies and strengthens domestic violence training requirements for  
34 law enforcement officers; appropriates \$250,000.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 2786

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 12, 1999

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman TOM SMITH**

**District 11 (Monmouth)**

**Assemblywoman ARLINE M. FRISCIA**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman Heck, Assemblymen Holzapfel, Wolfe, LeFevre,  
Conaway, Corodemus and Gusciora**

**SYNOPSIS**

Clarifies and strengthens domestic violence training requirements for law enforcement officers.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/11/1999)**

1 AN ACT concerning domestic violence training for law enforcement  
2 officers and amending P.L.1991, c.261.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6  
7 1. Section 4 of P.L 1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-20) is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 4. a. (1) The Division of Criminal Justice shall develop and  
10 approve a training course and curriculum on the handling,  
11 investigation and response procedures concerning reports of domestic  
12 violence and abuse and neglect of the elderly and disabled. This  
13 training course and curriculum shall be reviewed at least every two  
14 years and modified by the Division of Criminal Justice from time to  
15 time as need may require. The Division of Criminal Justice shall  
16 distribute the curriculum to all local police agencies.

17 (2) The Attorney General shall be responsible for ensuring that all  
18 law enforcement officers attend initial training within 90 days of  
19 appointment or transfer and **biannual** annual inservice training of at  
20 least four hours as described in this section.

21 b. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall develop and  
22 approve a training course and a curriculum on the handling,  
23 investigation and response procedures concerning allegations of  
24 domestic violence. This training course shall be reviewed at least  
25 every two years and modified by the Administrative Office of the  
26 Courts from time to time as need may require.

27 The Administrative Director of the Courts shall be responsible for  
28 ensuring that all judges and judicial personnel attend initial training  
29 within 90 days of appointment or transfer and biannual inservice  
30 training as described in this section.

31 The Division of Criminal Justice and the Administrative Office of  
32 the Courts shall provide that all training on the handling of domestic  
33 violence matters shall include information concerning the impact of  
34 domestic violence on society, the dynamics of domestic violence, the  
35 statutory and case law concerning domestic violence, the necessary  
36 elements of a protection order, policies and procedures as promulgated  
37 or ordered by the Attorney General or the Supreme Court, and the use  
38 of available community resources, support services, available sanctions  
39 and treatment options. Law enforcement agencies shall **either**: (1)  
40 establish domestic crisis teams or participate in established domestic  
41 crisis teams, and (2) shall train individual officers in methods of  
42 dealing with domestic violence and neglect and abuse of the elderly  
43 and disabled. The teams may include social workers, clergy or other

**EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

1 persons trained in counseling, crisis intervention or in the treatment of  
2 domestic violence and neglect and abuse of the elderly and disabled  
3 victims.

4 (cf: P.L.1994, c.93, s.2)

5

6 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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11 N.J.S.A.2C:25-20, contained in the "Prevention of Domestic  
12 Violence Act," P.L.1991, c.261, currently requires "biannual"  
13 domestic violence training for law enforcement officers. This bill  
14 would clarify that the training for law enforcement officers shall occur  
15 annually and shall consist of at least four hours.

16 The bill also amends current statutory language which requires law  
17 enforcement agencies to "either establish domestic crisis teams or train  
18 individual officers in methods of dealing with domestic violence."  
19 Under the bill, law enforcement agencies would be required to do  
20 both: to establish domestic crisis teams (or participate in previously-  
21 established domestic crisis teams) and to train individual officers in  
22 methods of dealing with domestic violence.

23 This bill grew out of a recommendation of the Assembly Task Force  
24 on Domestic Violence, which found the language concerning the  
25 requirements for training to be ambiguous and in need of clarification.

26 This bill embodies Recommendation #2 of the Report and  
27 Recommendations of the Assembly Task Force on Domestic Violence,  
28 issued in July, 1998.

ASSEMBLY POLICY AND REGULATORY OVERSIGHT  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 2786**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: FEBRUARY 22, 1999

The Assembly Policy and Regulatory Oversight Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 2786.

Assembly Bill No. 2786 amends section 4 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-20) to clarify and strengthen domestic violence training requirements for law enforcement officers and agencies.

Subsection a. of section 4 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-20) is amended to establish an annual domestic violence training requirement for law enforcement officers and specify that the minimum time duration for these training periods be four hours.

Subsection b. of this same section is also amended to require that law enforcement agencies establish domestic crisis teams, or participate in established domestic crisis teams, and train individual officers in methods of dealing with domestic violence and neglect and abuse of the elderly and disabled.

According to the sponsors, the current law on domestic violence training is ambiguous and in need of clarification. This bill establishes clear guidelines on requirements for law enforcement officer training and agency participation.

The provisions of this bill embody the content of recommendation #2 of the report of the Assembly Task Force on Domestic Violence, issued in July, 1998.



SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 2786**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 23, 1999

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 2786.

This bill amends section 4 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-20) to clarify and strengthen domestic violence training requirements for law enforcement officers and agencies.

This bill establishes an annual domestic violence training requirement for law enforcement officers and specifies that the minimum time duration for these training periods be four hours.

The bill also requires that law enforcement agencies establish domestic crisis teams, or participate in established domestic crisis teams, and train individual officers in methods of dealing with domestic violence and neglect and abuse of the elderly and disabled.

According to the sponsors, the current law on domestic violence training is ambiguous and in need of clarification. This bill establishes clear guidelines on requirements for law enforcement officer training and agency participation.

The provisions of this bill embody the content of recommendation #2 of the report of the Assembly Task Force on Domestic Violence, issued in July, 1998.

This bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 1655, which also was released by the committee on this date.

# SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **ASSEMBLY, No. 2786**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: OCTOBER 18, 1999

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 2786.

This bill amends section 4 of the "Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1991," P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-20) to make certain revisions in the domestic violence training requirements for law enforcement officers and agencies.

The Prevention of Domestic Violence Act directs the Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety to (1) develop a training course on the handling, investigation and response procedures concerning reports of domestic violence, and (2) distribute the course curriculum to local police agencies. The Act makes the Attorney General responsible for ensuring that all law enforcement officers attend the training.

Currently, officers must attend such training within 90 days of appointment or transfer and biannually (every six months) while in service, but prescribes no minimum length of time for the training. The bill revises the required frequency of inservice training from biannually to annually; it mandates that such training shall be of at least four hours' duration.

The bill also revises the Act's requirement that law enforcement agencies "either establish domestic crisis teams or train individual officers in methods of dealing with domestic violence." Under the bill, law enforcement agencies would be required to do both: to establish domestic crisis teams (or participate in previously-established domestic crisis teams) and to train individual officers in methods of dealing with domestic violence.

The provisions of the bill embody the content of recommendation #2 of the report of the Assembly Task Force on Domestic Violence, issued in July, 1998.

As amended, this bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 1655 Sca, also reported by the committee on this date.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

Committee amendments to the bill direct the Attorney General to make available, subject to the approval of the Director of the Division

of Budget and Accounting, from the resources of the Division of Criminal Justice, and in cooperation with other State departments, such assistance as is necessary to allow law enforcement agencies to effectuate the amendatory provisions of this legislation regarding the agencies' obligation to establish or participate in domestic crisis teams and to train individual officers in methods of dealing with domestic violence.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety informally indicates that requiring annual inservice training for law enforcement officers would not result in any added costs to the State or its localities. Further, the proposed four-hour minimum training period would not result in added costs because current domestic violence training typically exceeds four hours, according to the division. Consequently, law enforcement agencies that are in compliance with current guidelines should not experience increased costs.

The division indicates that the bill's provision requiring law enforcement agencies to establish or participate in domestic crisis teams will result in additional costs. The total cost cannot be determined at this time, according to the division, because the number of law enforcement agencies which choose to establish their own teams is unknown. The division estimates startup costs for a domestic crisis team to be \$5,000 per team. This cost includes beepers and other items that women's centers typically provide domestic violence victims.

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concurs that the bill's inservice training requirements would not result in added costs and that requiring law enforcement agencies to establish or participate in domestic violence teams will result in undetermined additional costs. OLS notes that certain nonprofit or volunteer organizations may be able to provide assistance to law enforcement agencies in these areas, and that such assistance, in conjunction with the availability of State government resources as authorized by the Senate committee amendments to the bill, may enable these agencies to meet their responsibilities under the legislation without additional cost to the agencies.

STATEMENT TO  
[First Reprint]  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 2786**

with Senate Floor Amendments  
(Proposed By Senator PALAIA)

ADOPTED: NOVEMBER 15, 1999

This Senate floor amendment appropriates \$250,000 to the Department of Community Affairs to reimburse local law enforcement agencies for the cost of training domestic crisis teams, as required by this bill. Previously, the bill had directed the Attorney General to make available for this purpose unspecified resources of the Division of Criminal Justice.

# LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

## ASSEMBLY, No. 2786

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

## 208th LEGISLATURE

DATED: MAY 21, 1999

Assembly Bill No. 2786 of 1999 would amend current law to clarify domestic violence training requirements for law enforcement officers and agencies.

**A-2786 would change law enforcement "inservice training" requirements:**

Presently, law enforcement officers are required to attend biannual inservice training on the handling and response procedures of domestic violence. This bill would establish an annual domestic violence training requirement for law enforcement officers and specify that training be at least four hours in duration.

**A-2786 would require all law enforcement agencies to establish or participate in domestic violence "crisis teams":**

Current law provides that law enforcement agencies are required either (1) to establish domestic violence "crisis teams" or (2) to train individual officers in methods of dealing with domestic violence and neglect and abuse of the elderly and disabled. This bill would direct law enforcement agencies to fulfill both requirements, although they may choose to participate in a domestic crisis team rather than establish one.

**Fiscal Impact:**

The Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety informally indicates that requiring annual inservice training for law enforcement officers would not result in any added costs to the State or its localities. The Office of Attorney General, in adopting its current guidelines, interpreted the statutory requirement of "biannual" inservice training to mean that law enforcement agencies must complete such training twice a year. Further, the proposed four-hour minimum training period would not result in added costs because current domestic violence training typically exceeds four hours, according to the division. Consequently, law enforcement agencies that are in compliance with current guidelines should not experience increased costs.

The division indicates that the bill's provision requiring law

enforcement agencies to establish or participate in domestic crisis teams will result in additional costs. The total cost cannot be determined at this time, according to the division, because the number of law enforcement agencies which choose to establish their own teams is unknown. The division estimates startup costs for a domestic crisis team to be \$5,000 per team. This cost includes beepers and other items that women's centers typically provide domestic violence victims.

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concurs that the bill's inservice training requirements would not result in added costs and that requiring law enforcement agencies to establish or participate in domestic violence teams will result in an undetermined amount of added costs to these agencies. OLS notes, however, that certain nonprofit or volunteer organizations may be able to provide assistance to law enforcement agencies in these areas without additional costs to the agencies.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.

# SENATE, No. 1655

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 208th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 21, 1999

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator JOSEPH A. PALAIA**

**District 11 (Monmouth)**

**Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER**

**District 15 (Mercer)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Allen, Bucco, Sinagra, Robertson and Kosco**

**SYNOPSIS**

Clarifies and strengthens domestic violence training requirements for law enforcement officers.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/28/1999)**

1 AN ACT concerning domestic violence training for law enforcement  
2 officers and amending P.L.1991, c. 261.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6  
7 1. Section 4 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-20) is amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 4. a. (1) The Division of Criminal Justice shall develop and  
10 approve a training course and curriculum on the handling,  
11 investigation and response procedures concerning reports of domestic  
12 violence and abuse and neglect of the elderly and disabled. This  
13 training course and curriculum shall be reviewed at least every two  
14 years and modified by the Division of Criminal Justice from time to  
15 time as need may require. The Division of Criminal Justice shall  
16 distribute the curriculum to all local police agencies.

17 (2) The Attorney General shall be responsible for ensuring that all  
18 law enforcement officers attend initial training within 90 days of  
19 appointment or transfer and **biannual** annual inservice training of at  
20 least four hours as described in this section.

21 b. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall develop and  
22 approve a training course and a curriculum on the handling,  
23 investigation and response procedures concerning allegations of  
24 domestic violence. This training course shall be reviewed at least  
25 every two years and modified by the Administrative Office of the  
26 Courts from time to time as need may require.

27 The Administrative Director of the Courts shall be responsible for  
28 ensuring that all judges and judicial personnel attend initial training  
29 within 90 days of appointment or transfer and biannual inservice  
30 training as described in this section.

31 The Division of Criminal Justice and the Administrative Office of  
32 the Courts shall provide that all training on the handling of domestic  
33 violence matters shall include information concerning the impact of  
34 domestic violence on society, the dynamics of domestic violence, the  
35 statutory and case law concerning domestic violence, the necessary  
36 elements of a protection order, policies and procedures as promulgated  
37 or ordered by the Attorney General or the Supreme Court, and the use  
38 of available community resources, support services, available sanctions  
39 and treatment options. Law enforcement agencies shall **either**: (1)  
40 establish domestic crisis teams or participate in established domestic  
41 crisis teams, and (2) shall train individual officers in methods of  
42 dealing with domestic violence and neglect and abuse of the elderly  
43 and disabled. The teams may include social workers, clergy or other

**EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**



1 persons trained in counseling, crisis intervention or in the treatment of  
2 domestic violence and neglect and abuse of the elderly and disabled  
3 victims.

4 (cf: P.L.1994, c.93, s.2)

5

6 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

7

8

9

STATEMENT

10

11 N.J.S.A. 2C:25-20, contained in the "Prevention of Domestic  
12 Violence Act," P.L.1991, c.261, currently requires "biannual"  
13 domestic violence training for law enforcement officers. This bill  
14 would clarify that the training for law enforcement officers shall occur  
15 annually and shall consist of at least four hours.

16 The bill also amends current statutory language which requires law  
17 enforcement agencies to "either establish domestic crisis teams or train  
18 individual officers in methods of dealing with domestic violence."  
19 Under the bill, law enforcement agencies would be required to do  
20 both: to establish domestic crisis teams (or participate in previously-  
21 established domestic crisis teams) and to train individual officers in  
22 methods of dealing with domestic violence.

23 This bill grew out of a recommendation of the Assembly Task Force  
24 on Domestic Violence, which found the language concerning the  
25 requirements for training to be ambiguous and in need of clarification.

26 This bill embodies Recommendation #2 of the Report and  
27 Recommendations of the Assembly Task Force on Domestic Violence,  
28 issued in July, 1998.

# SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 1655**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: SEPTEMBER 23, 1999

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1655.

This bill amends section 4 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-20) to clarify and strengthen domestic violence training requirements for law enforcement officers and agencies.

This bill establishes an annual domestic violence training requirement for law enforcement officers and specifies that the minimum time duration for the training period be four hours.

The bill also requires law enforcement agencies to establish domestic crisis teams, or participate in established domestic crisis teams, and train individual officers in methods of dealing with domestic violence and neglect and abuse of the elderly and disabled.

According to the sponsors, the current law on domestic violence training is ambiguous and in need of clarification. This bill establishes clear guidelines on requirements for law enforcement officer training and agency participation.

The provisions of this bill embody the content of recommendation #2 of the report of the Assembly Task Force on Domestic Violence, issued in July, 1998.

This bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 2786, which also was released by the committee on this date.

# SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 1655**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: OCTOBER 18, 1999

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 1655.

This bill amends section 4 of the "Prevention of Domestic Violence Act of 1991," P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-20) to make certain revisions in the domestic violence training requirements for law enforcement officers and agencies.

The Prevention of Domestic Violence Act directs the Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety to (1) develop a training course on the handling, investigation and response procedures concerning reports of domestic violence, and (2) distribute the course curriculum to local police agencies. The Act makes the Attorney General responsible for ensuring that all law enforcement officers attend the training.

Currently, officers must attend such training within 90 days of appointment or transfer and biannually (every six months) while in service, but prescribes no minimum length of time for the training. The bill revises the required frequency of inservice training from biannually to annually it mandates that such training shall be of at least four hours' duration.

The bill also revises the Act's requirement that law enforcement agencies "either establish domestic crisis teams or train individual officers in methods of dealing with domestic violence." Under the bill, law enforcement agencies would be required to do both: to establish domestic crisis teams (or participate in previously-established domestic crisis teams) and to train individual officers in methods of dealing with domestic violence.

The provisions of the bill embody the content of recommendation #2 of the report of the Assembly Task Force on Domestic Violence, issued in July, 1998.

As amended, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 2786 Sca, also reported by the committee on this date.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

Committee amendments to the bill direct the Attorney General to make available, subject to the approval of the Director of the Division

of Budget and Accounting, from the resources of the Division of Criminal Justice, and in cooperation with other State departments, such assistance as is necessary to allow law enforcement agencies to effectuate the amendatory provisions of this legislation regarding the agencies' obligation to establish or participate in domestic crisis teams and to train individual officers in methods of dealing with domestic violence.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and Public Safety informally indicates that requiring annual inservice training for law enforcement officers would not result in any added costs to the State or its localities. Further, the proposed four-hour minimum training period would not result in added costs because current domestic violence training typically exceeds four hours, according to the division. Consequently, law enforcement agencies that are in compliance with current guidelines should not experience increased costs.

The division indicates that the bill's provision requiring law enforcement agencies to establish or participate in domestic crisis teams will result in additional costs. The total cost cannot be determined at this time, according to the division, because the number of law enforcement agencies which choose to establish their own teams is unknown. The division estimates startup costs for a domestic crisis team to be \$5,000 per team. This cost includes beepers and other items that women's centers typically provide domestic violence victims.

The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concurs that the bill's inservice training requirements would not result in added costs and that requiring law enforcement agencies to establish or participate in domestic violence teams will result in undetermined additional costs. OLS notes that certain nonprofit or volunteer organizations may be able to provide assistance to law enforcement agencies in these areas, and that such assistance, in conjunction with the availability of State government resources as authorized by the Senate committee amendments to the bill, may enable these agencies to meet their additional responsibilities under the legislation without additional cost to the agencies.