



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB4423

Introduced 1/16/2024, by Rep. Jason Bunting

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

50 ILCS 705/3.3 new

Amends the Illinois Police Training Act. Creates within the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board a Recruitment Division. Provides that the Division shall establish a Back the Badge program, which shall establish recruitment plans for law enforcement agencies. Provides that the Division shall determine and prioritize specific characteristics that a law enforcement agency and community desire in their police officers. Provides that the Division shall cooperate with law enforcement agencies to determine a strategy to hire and retain sworn police officers who are diverse and reflective of the community and the priorities of the law enforcement agencies.

LRB103 35351 AWJ 65415 b

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Police Training Act is amended by
5 adding Section 3.3 as follows:

6 (50 ILCS 705/3.3 new)

7 Sec. 3.3. Recruitment Division; Back the Badge program.

8 (a) Purpose. Given the current environment of the policing
9 profession, recruiting law enforcement officers and retaining
10 officers are the greatest challenges facing law enforcement
11 agencies. The recruitment of and retention of officers is
12 imperative to public safety.

13 (b) Recruitment Division. There is created within the
14 Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board a
15 Recruitment Division.

16 (c) Duties. The Division shall establish a Back the Badge
17 program, which shall establish recruitment plans for law
18 enforcement agencies. The Division shall determine and
19 prioritize specific characteristics that a law enforcement
20 agency and community desire in their police officers. The
21 Division shall cooperate with law enforcement agencies to
22 determine a strategy to hire and retain sworn police officers
23 who are diverse and reflective of the community, and the

1 priorities of the law enforcement agencies.