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HOUSE BILL NO. 1024

Offered January 22, 1996

A BILL to amend and reenact § 9-182 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Department of Criminal Justice Services; private security businesses.

Patron—Crouch (By Request)

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 9-182 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 9-182. Compulsory training standards for private security services business personnel.

A. The Board shall have the power to issue regulations pursuant to Chapter 1.1:1 (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.) of this title, establishing compulsory minimum, entry-level, in-service, and advanced training standards for persons employed by private security services businesses in classifications defined in § 9-183.1, except for central station dispatchers, electronic security sales representatives and electronic security technicians. The regulations may include provisions delegating to the Board's staff the right to inspect the facilities and programs of persons conducting training to ensure compliance with the law and its regulations. In establishing by regulation compulsory training standards for each of the classifications defined in § 9-183.1, the Board shall be guided by the policy of this section which is to secure the public safety and welfare against incompetent or unqualified persons engaging in the activities regulated by this section and Article 2.1 (§ 9-183.1 et seq.) of this title. The regulations may provide for exemption from such training for persons having previous employment as law-enforcement officers for a state or the federal government; however, no such exemption shall be granted to persons having less than five continuous years of such employment, nor shall an exemption be provided for any person whose employment as a law-enforcement officer was terminated because of his misconduct or incompetence. The regulations may include provisions for partial exemption from such training for persons having previous training which meets or exceeds the minimum training standards and has been approved by the Department, or for persons employed in classifications defined in § 9-183.1; however, no such exemption shall be granted to persons having less than five continuous years of such employment, nor shall an exemption be provided for any person whose employment as a private security services business employee was terminated because of his misconduct or incompetence.

B. The Board shall have the power to promulgate regulations pursuant to the Administrative Process Act (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.) to secure the public safety and welfare against incompetent, unqualified, unscrupulous, or unfit persons engaging in the activities of private security services businesses as follows:

1. To establish the qualifications of applicants for registration or licensure under Article 2.1 (§ 9-183.1) of Chapter 27 of this title;

2. To examine, or cause to be examined, the qualifications of each applicant for registration or licensure, including when necessary the preparation, administration and grading of examinations;

3. To certify or license qualified applicants as practitioners of private security services businesses;

4. To levy and collect fees for registration or licensure and renewal that are sufficient to cover all expenses for administration and operation of a program of registration and licensure for private security services businesses;

5. To promulgate regulations necessary to ensure continued competency, and to prevent deceptive or misleading practices by practitioners and to effectively administer the regulatory system promulgated by the Board;

6. To receive complaints concerning the conduct of any person whose activities are regulated by the Board, to conduct investigations, and to take appropriate disciplinary action if warranted; and

7. To revoke, suspend or fail to renew a registration or license for just cause as enumerated in regulations of the Board.

C. In promulgating its regulations under subsections A and B of this section, the Board shall seek the advice of the Private Security Services Advisory Board established pursuant to § 9-183.5.

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