

Date: 2-9-21

House Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Committee

Bill: 2nd Sub. SB 13 Law Enforcement Internal Investigation Requirements

Sponsor: Sen. Iwamoto

Floor Sponsor: Rep. Wilcox

UASD Position: Tracking

This Bill: adjusts requirements for law enforcement agencies to conduct internal investigations regarding law enforcement officers.

Discussion: Sen. Iwamoto explained that this bill requires law enforcement agencies to report certain investigations to Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), and to provide information to a prospective employer upon request. POST, the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice, the League of Cities and Towns, and the Utah Chiefs of Police Association support the bill.

Yeas: 7

Nays: 0

N/V: 4

Outcome: 2nd Sub. SB 13 passed out of committee with a favorable recommendation.

Bill: 1st Sub. HB 264 Law Enforcement Weapons Use Amendments

Sponsor: Rep. Romero

Floor Sponsor:

UASD Position: Tracking

This Bill: requires a law enforcement officer to file a report after pointing a firearm or a conductive energy device at an individual.

Discussion: Rep. Romero explained that this bill requires a peace officer to document every time they pull a weapon or taser. They would identify the individual, where the incident occurred, and file the report within 48 hours. Scott Stevenson, director of Peace Officer Standards and Training, said this will provide us with more data about when officers pull a weapon. He supports the bill. Rep. Stoddard asked about the substitute. Rep. Romero said that the substitute notes that the section doesn't apply to training exercises or officers involved in a critical incident. Mr. Stevenson said critical incidents are already heavily investigated. Rep. Burton asked if this would require the development of a new form. Mr. Stevenson said many departments already capture this data, so it will not require a new form. The Utah Fraternal Order of Police and the Utah Chiefs of Police Association support the bill. The 1st substitute was adopted.

Yeas: 8

Nays: 0

N/V: 3

Outcome: 1st Sub. HB 264 passed out of committee with a favorable recommendation.

Bill: 1st Sub. HB 62 Post Certification Amendments

Sponsor: Rep. Stoddard

Floor Sponsor:

UASD Position: Tracking

This Bill: adds additional grounds for taking action in relation to peace officer misconduct.

Discussion: Rep. Stoddard noted that he will speak to the 2nd substitute, which removes the use of force provision and the language about a credible allegation. This will expand Peace Officer Standards and Training's (POST's) ability to investigate officers. The fiscal note has been dropped to 0. POST, the Law Enforcement Legislative Committee, the Utah League of Cities and Towns, and the Utah Chiefs of Police Association support this bill. The 2nd substitute was adopted.

Yeas: 9

Nays: 0

N/V: 2

Outcome: 2nd Sub. HB 62 passed out of committee with a favorable recommendation.