

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SB 1148
Author: Niello (R)
Amended: 7/1/26
Vote: 21

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 9-0, 3/23/26

AYES: Wahab, Choi, Archuleta, Caballero, Grayson, Niello, Smallwood-Cuevas,
Strickland, Umberg

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arreguín, Menjivar

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

SENATE FLOOR: 38-0, 4/16/26 (Consent)

AYES: Allen, Alvarado-Gil, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear,
Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Gonzalez,
Grayson, Grove, Hurtado, Jones, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Niello,
Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas,
Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Menjivar, Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: Passed, 8/31/26

SUBJECT: Security guards: training

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill authorizes applicants planning to become registered as a security guard, patrolperson, and proprietary private security officer with the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services (Bureau) to complete all 40 hours of required training before their registration is issued.

Assembly Amendments add proprietary private security officers to the applicants for registration with the Bureau who are authorized to complete required training within six month of when registration to be employed as a security guard, private patrolperson, or proprietary private security officer is issued.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Contains the Private Security Services Act (Act), which establishes the Bureau within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA or Department) and provides for Bureau regulation of private patrol operators (PPOs) that employ private security guards and security patrolpersons. (Business and Professions Code (BPC) §§ 7580, *et seq.*)
- 2) Contains the Proprietary Security Services Act (PSS Act), which provides for Bureau regulation of Proprietary Private Security Employers (PPSEs) that employ registered proprietary private security officers. (BPC §§ 7574, *et seq.*)
- 3) Prohibits any person from engaging in a business regulated by the Act or assuming to act as, or representing himself or herself to be, a licensee unless he or she is licensed under the Act and prohibits any person from falsely representing that he or she is employed by a licensee; prohibits a person from engaging in the business of a proprietary private security officer unless registered. (BPC §§ 7582; 7274.10)
- 4) Defines a PPO as a person who agrees to furnish, or furnishes, a watchman, guard, patrolperson, or other person to protect persons or property or to prevent the theft, unlawful taking, loss, embezzlement, misappropriation, or concealment of any goods, wares, merchandise, money, bonds, stocks, notes, documents, papers, or property of any kind; or performs the service of a watchman, guard, patrolperson, or other person, for any of these purposes. (BPC § 7582.1(a))
- 5) Defines a security guard or security officer as an employee of a PPO or an employee of a lawful business or public agency who performs the functions described above in 4) on or about the premises owned or controlled by the customer of the PPO or by the guard's employer or in the company of persons being protected. (BPC § 7582.1(e))
- 6) Defines a "proprietary private security employer" as a person who has one or more employees who provide security services for the employer and only for the employer; defines a "proprietary private security officer" as an unarmed individual who is employed exclusively by any one employer whose primary duty is to provide security services for their employer, whose services are not contracted to any other entity or person, is required to wear a distinctive

uniform clearly identifying the individual as a security officer, and is likely to interact with the public while performing their duties. (BPC § 7474.01(f),(g))

- 7) Requires each applicant for a security guard or proprietary private security office registration to complete a course in the exercise of the power to arrest and the appropriate use of force, i.e. security officer skills training, as a condition for the issuance of the registration. Specifies that the training must be administered and certified by a single course provider and must be completed within six months preceding the date the application is submitted to the Bureau (BPC §§ 7583.6, 7574.18)
- 8) Requires security guard registrants to complete no less than 32 hours of training in security officer skills within six months from the date an initial registration is issued and specifies that 16 of the 32 hours must be completed within 30 days from the date the registration is issued. (BPC § 7583.6 (b))
- 9) Requires the Department to develop and establish by regulation a standard course and curriculum, which shall include a minimum number of hours of instruction, for the skills training for proprietary private security officers. (BPC § 7574.18(d))
- 10) Requires licensees to maintain at the principal place of business or branch office a record for each of its registrant employees verifying completion of the trainings and to make the records available for inspection by the Bureau upon request. (BPC § 7583.6(g)(2); 7574.18(f)(2))
- 11) Requires the course of training in the exercise of the power to arrest and the appropriate use of force to be administered, tested, and certified by any licensee or by any organization or school approved by the Department. The course of training is required to be approximately eight hours in length and cover 24 individual topics, as specified. (BPC § 7583.7(a))
- 12) Requires use of force topics to be taught through traditional classroom instruction where the instructor is physically present with students in a classroom for a minimum of 50 percent of the course and is available at all times, including during instruction provided through distance learning or remote platforms, to answer students' questions while providing the required training, as specified. (BPC § 7583.7(b))
- 13) Specifies that, among other requirements, an application to the Bureau include a statement that the applicant completed the training course in the exercise of

power to arrest and the appropriate use of force within six months preceding the date the application is submitted to the Bureau. (BPC § 7583.10)

This bill authorizes, for the 32 hours of required training in 7) above, the training to be completed within six months from the date an initial registration is issued and authorizes 16 of the 32 hours currently required to be completed within 30 days from the date of registration issuance to be completed before 30 days of the date of registration issuance.

Background

BSIS and Private Security. Regulatory oversight of the private security industry in California began in 1915 with the creation of the Detective Licensing Board (Board) under the State Board of Prison Directors, which licensed and regulated private detectives. The Detective Licensing Board went through several iterations, structures, and scope changes until AB 936 (Rainey, Chapter 1263, Statutes of 1993) formally renamed the Bureau as its current identifier, the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services. The Bureau currently licenses more than 3,000 PPOs and registers more than 345,000 security guards who are employed by the PPOs. Additionally, the Bureau registers 666 private security officer employers and more than 9,000 proprietary private security officers.

The Act and PSS Act require any security guard, patrolperson, and proprietary private security officer applicant to complete an eight-hour course in the exercise of Powers to Arrest and the Appropriate Use of Force as a requirement of registration. Within six months of obtaining a Bureau registration, the applicant must complete an additional 32 hours of security guard skills training, for a total of 40 hours of training.

This bill will allow security registration applicants to complete the required training within six months of the Bureau issuing a registration, rather than requiring a portion of the training to be completed after Bureau registration is issued to the individual.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

BSIS anticipates minor and absorbable special fund costs to update public facing and internal materials to reflect the bill's revised timeframe requirements, including updates to the BSIS website, applications, factsheets, FAQs, training syllabi, training manuals, and internal job aids. BSIS also anticipates minor and absorbable special fund costs for the Complaint Resolution Unit to address an

unknown, but likely small number of additional complaints from security guards and proprietary private security officers if an employer requires subject-specific skills training that differs from previously completed training, and potentially from applicants who complete training but are denied licensure due to criminal history. The Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Office of Information Services (OIS) estimates one-time IT costs of approximately \$2,000 for text updates in BreEZe, ADA review and posting of the revised paper application, and website language updates. OIS indicates these costs can be absorbed through existing maintenance resources.

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/25/26)

California Association of Licensed Investigators
Securitas

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/25/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The California Association of Licensed Investigators writes, “CALI supports the provisions of SB 1148 that would authorize a person who has completed a course in the exercise of the power to arrest and the appropriate use of force to complete training in security officer skills before registration is issued by the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services.”

Securitas writes, “...permitting applicants to complete their skills training while awaiting issuance of their registration allows them to be more fully trained and prepared prior to being placed on post to execute their duties. At times, the processing of submitted registration applications is delayed for various reasons, up to several weeks or months. Rather than having to first wait until the registration is issued to complete their training, applicants can use that time to continue and complete their training, so they are fully prepared to start their assignment once their registration is issued.”

Prepared by: Yeaphana La Marr / B., P. & E.D. /
8/31/26 12:11:22

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