

Date of Hearing: July 9, 2025

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

SB 385 (Seyarto) – As Amended April 10, 2025

Policy Committee: Public Safety

Vote: 9 - 0

Urgency: Yes

State Mandated Local Program: No

Reimbursable: No

**SUMMARY:**

This bill eliminates an existing requirement that the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) approve and adopt education criteria for peace officers recommended by the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges (Chancellor's Office).

**FISCAL EFFECT:**

No significant fiscal impact. POST reports no fiscal impact.

**COMMENTS:**

- 1) **Background.** In 2021, the Legislature enacted AB 89 (Jones-Sawyer), Chapter 405, Statutes of 2021, which established minimum age and education requirements for a California peace officer and required the Chancellor's Office to develop a modern policing degree program. AB 89 also required the Chancellor's Office and other stakeholders to submit recommendations to the Legislature for implementation of the modern policing program, and required POST to approve and adopt education criteria for peace officers based on the Chancellor's Office's recommendations within two years of the submission of the recommendations. As described in the analysis of this bill by the Assembly Committee on Public Safety, the Chancellor's Office issued recommendations in November 2023, and the Legislature passed two bills seeking to implement the recommendations in the 2023-24 legislative session. For various reasons, neither bill was sent to the Governor.

This bill eliminates the requirement that POST approve and adopt peace officer education criteria based on the Chancellor's Office's recommendations. Because the bill contains an urgency clause, if enacted, the bill will relieve POST of this obligation before the commission's statutory deadline to approve and adopt the criteria.

- 2) **Related Legislation.** AB 992 (Irwin) specifies the higher education achievements or professional experiences a peace officer must obtain within 36 months of receiving their basic certificate from POST. Like SB 385, AB 992 eliminates POST's obligation to approve and adopt peace officer education criteria. Unlike SB 385, AB 992 does not contain an urgency clause. AB 992 is pending in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**Analysis Prepared by:** Annika Carlson / APPR. / (916) 319-2081