



General Assembly

## ***Substitute Bill No. 7069***

*January Session, 2025*



### ***AN ACT CONCERNING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS OF POLICE OFFICERS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 7-291e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

3 (a) As used in this section: (1) "Administrative head of each law  
4 enforcement unit" means the Commissioner of Emergency Services and  
5 Public Protection, the board of police commissioners, the chief of police,  
6 superintendent of police or other authority having charge of a law  
7 enforcement unit; and (2) "behavioral health assessment" means a  
8 behavioral health assessment of a police officer conducted by a board-  
9 certified psychiatrist, psychologist licensed pursuant to the provisions  
10 of chapter 383 or a clinical social worker licensed pursuant to the  
11 provisions of chapter 383b, who has experience diagnosing and treating  
12 post-traumatic stress disorder.

13 (b) On and after January 1, 2021, the administrative head of each law  
14 enforcement unit shall require each police officer employed by such law  
15 enforcement unit to submit, as a condition of continued employment, to  
16 a periodic behavioral health assessment conducted by a psychiatrist,  
17 psychologist or clinical social worker approved by the union that  
18 represents police officers of such law enforcement unit. Each police

19 officer employed by a law enforcement unit shall submit to a periodic  
20 behavioral health assessment not less than once every five years. In  
21 carrying out the provisions of this section, the administrative head of  
22 each law enforcement unit may stagger the scheduling of such  
23 behavioral health assessments in a manner that results in approximately  
24 twenty per cent of the total number of police officers in the law  
25 enforcement unit receiving behavioral health assessments each year  
26 over a five-year period. Notwithstanding the provisions of this  
27 subsection, the administrative head of a law enforcement unit may  
28 waive the requirement that a police officer submit to a periodic  
29 behavioral health assessment when the police officer has submitted  
30 written notification of his or her decision to retire from the law  
31 enforcement unit to such administrative head, provided the effective  
32 date of such retirement is not more than six months beyond the date on  
33 which such periodic behavioral health assessment is scheduled to occur.

34 (c) In addition to the behavioral health assessments required  
35 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the administrative head of  
36 each law enforcement unit may, for good cause shown, require a police  
37 officer to submit to an additional behavioral health assessment  
38 conducted by a psychiatrist, psychologist or clinical social worker  
39 approved by the union that represents police officers of such law  
40 enforcement unit. The administrative head of a law enforcement unit  
41 requiring that a police officer submit to an additional behavioral health  
42 assessment shall provide the police officer with a written statement  
43 setting forth the good faith basis for requiring the police officer to  
44 submit to an additional behavioral health assessment. Upon receiving  
45 such written statement, the police officer shall, not later than thirty days  
46 after the date of the written request, submit to such behavioral health  
47 assessment.

48 (d) A law enforcement unit that hires any person as a police officer,  
49 who was previously employed as a police officer by another law  
50 enforcement unit or employed as a police officer in any other  
51 jurisdiction, may require such new hire to submit to a behavioral health  
52 assessment conducted by a psychiatrist, psychologist or clinical social

53 worker approved by the union that represents police officers of such law  
54 enforcement unit not later than six months after the date of hire. When  
55 determining whether such new hire shall be required to submit to a  
56 behavioral health assessment, the law enforcement unit shall give due  
57 consideration to factors that include, but are not limited to, the date on  
58 which such new hire most recently submitted to a behavioral health  
59 assessment.

60 (e) [Any person conducting] (1) No psychiatrist, psychologist or  
61 clinical social worker that conducts a behavioral health assessment of  
62 any police officer, in accordance with the provisions of this section, shall  
63 access or request any medical record of a police officer through any  
64 electronic health record system as part of such behavioral health  
65 assessment of such police officer. For the purposes of this subdivision,  
66 "electronic health record system" has the same meaning as provided in  
67 section 17b-59e.

68 (2) Any such psychiatrist, psychologist or clinical social worker  
69 approved by the union that represents police officers of such law  
70 enforcement unit to conduct a behavioral health assessment of [a] such  
71 police officer pursuant to the provisions of this section shall only  
72 provide a written copy of the results of such assessment to [the] such  
73 police officer and to the administrative head of the law enforcement unit  
74 employing [the] such police officer. Such written results shall not  
75 include an evaluation of such police officer's physical fitness for duty.

76 (f) The results of any behavioral health assessment conducted in  
77 accordance with the provisions of this section and any record or note  
78 maintained by a psychiatrist, psychologist, or clinical social worker in  
79 connection with the conducting of such assessment shall not be subject  
80 to disclosure under section 1-210 and shall not be made part of a medical  
81 record. Such results shall only be used or shared in accordance with the  
82 provisions of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:
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Section 1	October 1, 2025	7-291e
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**Statement of Legislative Commissioners:**

In Subsecs. (b) to (d), inclusive, "such psychiatrist" was changed to "a psychiatrist" for consistency with standard drafting conventions.

**INS**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*