



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 7256



Offered by:

SEN. LOONEY, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. DUFF, 25<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. GASTON, 23<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

SEN. COHEN, 12<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. MCCRORY, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dist.

SEN. WINFIELD, 10<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. MARONEY, 14<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1489

File No. 446

Cal. No. 269

**"AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL POLICE FORCES."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:

4 (1) "Member municipality" means a town, city or borough that joins  
5 a regional police force; and

6 (2) "Regional police force" means a police department formed by two  
7 or more member municipalities that enter into an agreement to combine  
8 such member municipalities' police departments.

9 (b) A regional police force may be formed by two or more  
10 municipalities that each have a population of not more than fifty  
11 thousand, as determined by the most recent decennial census.  
12 Municipalities seeking to form a regional police force shall submit an

13 application to the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public  
14 Protection, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner. The  
15 application shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) a description of  
16 the proposed structure and governance of the regional police force, (2)  
17 a financial plan detailing the estimated costs and projected savings  
18 resulting from the formation of the regional police force, and (3) a plan  
19 for ensuring continued public safety during the period of transition to a  
20 regional police force. The commissioner may approve the application if  
21 the commissioner determines that the regional police force would be  
22 sufficiently funded, managed and effective and that the formation of  
23 such regional police force would satisfy the requirements established by  
24 the provisions of this section.

25 (c) (1) Each regional police force shall establish a regional police  
26 authority to oversee policy decisions, approve budgets, establish  
27 operational priorities, manage police operations, allocate resources and  
28 ensure that public safety standards are met. The regional police  
29 authority shall consist of representatives from each member  
30 municipality.

31 (2) Each regional police authority shall annually hold a public hearing  
32 to review such regional police force's performance and consider  
33 comments from residents of the member municipalities.

34 (3) Member municipalities that form a regional police force shall  
35 jointly assume liability for actions taken by such regional police force.  
36 Such member municipalities shall share the cost of liability insurance  
37 proportionally on the basis of population.

38 (d) Each regional police authority shall annually submit a report to  
39 the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection and the  
40 chief elected official, chief executive officer and legislative body of each  
41 of the member municipalities. Each such report shall include, but need  
42 not be limited to, information regarding (1) the regional police force's  
43 budget allocations and expenditures, (2) crime statistics and community  
44 policing efforts in the member municipalities, and (3) the regional police

45 force's performance metrics, including, but not limited to, response  
46 times, community outreach and officer staffing."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section