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SENATE BILL 549

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

MARY JANE M GARCIA

AN ACT

RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT; AMENDING THE LAW ENFORCEMENT  
TRAINING ACT; DEFINING "POLICE OFFICER".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 29-7-7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1981,  
Chapter 114, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

"29-7-7. DEFINITIONS. --For the purpose of the Law  
Enforcement Training Act:

A. "academy" means the New Mexico law enforcement  
academy;

B. "basic law enforcement training" means a course  
consisting of not less than four hundred hours of instruction in  
basic law enforcement training as required by the Law  
Enforcement Training Act;

C. "board" means the New Mexico law enforcement

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1 academy board;

2 D. "conviction" means an adjudication of guilt or a  
3 plea of no contest and includes convictions that are suspended  
4 or deferred;

5 E. "director" means the director of the academy;

6 F. "in-service law enforcement training" means a  
7 course of instruction required of all certified peace officers  
8 designed to train and equip all police officers in the state  
9 with specific law enforcement skills and to ensure the  
10 continuing development of all police officers in the state. The  
11 training and instruction shall be kept current and may be  
12 conducted on a regional basis at the discretion of the director;

13 G. "police officer" means any commissioned employee  
14 of a law enforcement agency that is part of or administered by  
15 the state or any political subdivision of the state and includes  
16 any employee of a missile range civilian police department who  
17 is a graduate of a recognized certified regional law enforcement  
18 training facility, which employee is responsible for the  
19 prevention and detection of crime or the enforcement of the  
20 penal or traffic or highway laws of this state. The term  
21 specifically includes deputy sheriffs. Sheriffs are eligible to  
22 attend the academy and are eligible to receive certification as  
23 provided in the Law Enforcement Training Act. As used in this  
24 subsection, "commissioned" means an employee of a law  
25 enforcement agency who is authorized by a sheriff or chief of

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1 police to apprehend, arrest and bring before the court all  
2 violators within the state; and

3 H. "certified regional law enforcement training  
4 facility" means a law enforcement training facility within the  
5 state certified by the director, with the approval of the  
6 academy's board of directors, that offers basic law enforcement  
7 training and in-service law enforcement training that is  
8 comparable to or exceeds the standards of the programs of the  
9 academy. "