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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LESS THAN LETHAL FORCE.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that public safety  
2 officers, including state deputy sheriffs, provide invaluable  
3 societal contributions by risking their lives each day in  
4 service to Hawaii's residents. The legislature also finds that  
5 public safety officers are in a position of public trust as the  
6 guardians and protectors of the State's communities. This role  
7 requires extending respect and compassion to the people of the  
8 State, while also holding individuals accountable for criminal  
9 conduct.

10           The legislature further finds that since 2015, the number  
11 of fatal shootings in Hawaii by law enforcement officers has  
12 more than doubled and that it has risen from being less than one  
13 per cent of the national total to being two per cent in 2019.  
14 The State ranked forty-fourth among states in 2015 in the number  
15 of fatal law enforcement officer shootings, but has climbed to  
16 ranking thirty-second in 2019. The legislature notes that the



1 majority of these cases involved people who were not armed with  
2 a gun.

3 The purpose of this Act is to support the role of public  
4 safety officers by:

5 (1) Requiring the department of public safety to review  
6 its policies and procedures governing the use of  
7 force, weapons, and equipment; and

8 (2) Requiring the law enforcement standards board to  
9 review the department's use of force training.

10 SECTION 2. Chapter 353C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
12 and to read as follows:

13 "§353C- Use of force policies, procedures, and  
14 training. (a) The department shall review and update, at least  
15 annually, its policies and procedures governing the use of  
16 force, weapons, and equipment.

17 (b) The department's use of force training shall be  
18 reviewed by the law enforcement standards board established  
19 under section 139-2."

20 SECTION 3. The department of public safety shall report  
21 its progress regarding compliance with the requirements of



1 section 353C- (a), Hawaii Revised Statutes, to the legislature  
2 by December 1, 2020.

3 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Department of Public Safety; Use of Force; Policies and Procedures

**Description:**

Requires the department of public safety to review and update, at least annually, its policies and procedures governing the use of force, weapons, and equipment. Requires the law enforcement standards board to review the department's use of force training. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

