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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 686

02/13/2025

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety Finance and Policy

1.1A bill for an act

1.2relating to public safety; requiring the development of a model policy for safe

1.3traffic stops; prescribing best practices and areas for development; aligning

1.4preservice curriculum with the model policy; establishing continuing education

1.5requirements for law enforcement officers; appropriating money; amending

1.6Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 626.8451, by adding subdivisions; proposing

1.7coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 626.

1.8BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.9Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 626.8451, is amended by adding a subdivision

1.10to read:

1.11Subd. 5. Traffic stop training; preservice curriculum alignment. (a) The board shall

1.12review and amend the preservice curriculum for peace officers to ensure alignment with

1.13the model policy on safe traffic stops developed under section 626.8491.

1.14(b) The revised curriculum must include instruction on:

1.15(1) the procedures and best practices outlined in the model policy;

1.16(2) practical scenarios and role-playing exercises to practice safe traffic stop techniques;

1.17(3) legal standards and rights during traffic stops;

1.18(4) de-escalation and communication strategies specific to traffic stops; and

1.19(5) methods to engage and educate the community effectively on new policy.

1.20EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.1 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 626.8451, is amended by adding a subdivision
2.2 to read:

2.3 Subd. 6. **Continuing education requirements.** (a) The board shall develop continuing
2.4 education and learning requirements for peace officers that align with the model policy on
2.5 safe traffic stops.

2.6 (b) These requirements must include periodic training on:

2.7 (1) updates and changes to the model policy and best practices;

2.8 (2) refresher courses on de-escalation and communication techniques;

2.9 (3) legal updates and case studies related to traffic stops; and

2.10 (4) practical exercises and scenario-based training.

2.11 (c) All peace officers must complete the continuing education requirements within the
2.12 time frames established by the board.

2.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.14 Sec. 3. **[626.8491] SAFE TRAFFIC STOP MODEL POLICY.**

2.15 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have
2.16 the meanings given.

2.17 (b) "Peace officer" has the meaning given in section 626.84, subdivision 1, paragraph

2.18 (c).

2.19 (c) "Traffic stop" means an interaction initiated by a peace officer with a motor vehicle
2.20 operator to enforce the motor vehicle code or any other law.

2.21 Subd. 2. **Model policy development.** (a) By December 31, 2025, the board, in
2.22 consultation with law enforcement agencies, traffic safety experts, community organizations,
2.23 and other relevant stakeholders, shall develop a model policy for performing traffic stops
2.24 safely.

2.25 (b) The model policy must prescribe known best practices and highlight areas where the
2.26 board can create best practices. The policy must, at a minimum, address:

2.27 (1) procedures for initiating and conducting traffic stops to minimize risk to both peace
2.28 officers and civilians;

2.29 (2) de-escalation techniques and strategies to manage high-tension situations;

- 3.1 (3) communication protocols during a traffic stop to ensure clarity and reduce
3.2 misunderstandings;
- 3.3 (4) use of body-worn cameras and other recording devices;
- 3.4 (5) considerations for traffic stops involving individuals with disabilities or those
3.5 experiencing mental health crises;
- 3.6 (6) measures to prevent racial profiling and ensure equitable treatment of all individuals;
- 3.7 (7) legal standards and rights of both officers and civilians during traffic stops; and
- 3.8 (8) post-traffic stop procedures and documentation requirements.

3.9 Subd. 3. **Policy adoption by agencies.** By September 1, 2026, each law enforcement
3.10 agency in the state shall develop, adopt, and implement a written policy regarding traffic
3.11 stops that is identical or substantially similar to the model policy developed under subdivision
3.12 2.

3.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.14 Sec. 4. **APPROPRIATION.**

3.15 \$200,000 in fiscal year 2025 and \$500,000 in fiscal year 2026 are appropriated from the
3.16 general fund to the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Board to support the
3.17 development and implementation of the safe traffic stop model policy, curriculum alignment,
3.18 and continuing education requirements.

3.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.