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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill

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Referred to Committee: Senate 3

Authors: Emma Allison, Aryahna Day, Christina Williams, Rachel Heilman	Action on the Bill	
School: Shelby West MS	House	Senate

□ Passed	🗆 Passed

Shelbyville				
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An act to Create Cultural Understanding Between Police Officers and Citizens.

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: The purpose of this bill is to create cultural awareness between police officers and the citizens they serve. Already this year, 738 people who have already been shot and killed by police. Black Americans are 2.5 times as likely as white Americans to be shot and killed by police officers, and unarmed black Americans were five times as likely as unarmed white Americans to be shot and killed by a police officer. Additionally 44 police officers have been shot in the line of duty this year. We need to stop this violence. The intent of our bill to secure the lives of everyone in harm's way. Our bill will require cultural awareness training of police officers. During the training, police officers will examine stereotypes and cultural assumptions that are often held by the community and by the law enforcement professionals who serve the community, and discuss the negative effects of prejudice and discrimination. Currently, cultural awareness training is only required of dispatchers in Kentucky.

Section 2: The cultural awareness training would take place in officer schools and on-the-job. This training will help the police officer gain an understanding of the differences between cultures. By providing officers with information regarding different cultures and races, our bill will build community and trust and create a positive relationship between citizens and police.

The training will be provided by a police academy instructor qualified in cultural awareness instruction.

Section 3: Grants from POST (Police Officer Standards and Training) will provide the funding this bill will require which is minimal. Each police department will be responsible for sending their police to training or these penalties will be established):

• 1st offense: The police department/policemen receives a warning.

 • 2nd offense: The police department/policemen will be fined of 100 dollars per policemen.

• 3rd offense: If the police department/policemen disobeys this law again they will suspended from their duties until they have started the training program.

Section 4: This bill will take effect on Jan. 1, 2017.