

2016 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 277

BY SENATORS BISHOP AND THOMPSON

CULT/REC/TOUR DEPARTMENT. Requires POST certification of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism security officers and provides for a Poverty Point State Historic Site Archaeologist. (1/1/17)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 36:204(B)(8) and R.S. 56:1685.3 and 1688(E), relative to the authority of the
3 secretary of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism; to authorize the
4 employment of law enforcement officers for state museums; to provide relative to
5 police powers; to provide for training requirements; to provide for state park warden
6 training requirements; to provide relative to the Poverty Point State Historic Site; to
7 provide for an archaeologist for the site; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 36:204(B)(8) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §204. Powers and duties of secretary of culture, recreation and tourism

11 * * *

12 B. The secretary shall have authority to:

13 * * *

14 **(8) Employ state museum police officers who shall, in addition to the**
15 **authority otherwise conferred by law upon such officers, be vested with the**
16 **same authority and powers conferred by law upon regular law enforcement**
17 **officers of this state while such officers are acting within the course and scope**

1 of their duties, within the limits of their jurisdiction. Such officers may carry
 2 concealed or exposed weapons while acting within the course and scope of their
 3 duties. State museum police officers shall successfully complete a basic certified
 4 training program approved by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and
 5 Training as provided in R.S. 40:2405 and shall fulfill all requirements for
 6 annual basic firearms training. State museum police officers shall have the right
 7 to exercise the power of arrest when discharging their duties on property under
 8 jurisdiction of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism and on all
 9 streets, roads, and rights-of-way within or contiguous to the perimeter of the
 10 property.

11 Section 2. R.S. 56:1685.3 and 1688(E) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §1685.3. Poverty Point State Historic Site; archaeologist

13 The secretary of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism
 14 shall ensure that an archaeologist is employed in a full-time capacity at the
 15 Poverty Point State Historic Site.

16 * * *

17 §1688. Park wardens; powers and duties

18 * * *

19 E. State park wardens shall successfully complete a basic certified
 20 training program approved by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and
 21 Training as provided by R.S. 40:2405 and shall fulfill all requirements for
 22 annual basic firearms training.

23 Section 3. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2017.

The original instrument was prepared by Dawn Romero Watson. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Linda Nugent.

DIGEST

SB 277 Reengrossed 2016 Regular Session Bishop

Proposed law authorizes the secretary of the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to employ law enforcement officers for state museums. Provides that in addition to the authority otherwise conferred by law, the officers will be vested with the same authority and powers conferred by law upon regular law enforcement officers when acting within the

course and scope of their duties, within the limits of their jurisdiction. Also authorizes officers to carry concealed or exposed weapons while acting within the course and scope of their duties.

Proposed law requires state museum police officers to complete a basic certified training program approved by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training and to fulfill all requirements for basic firearms training.

Proposed law provides that state museum police officers shall have the right to exercise the power of arrest when discharging their duties on property under the jurisdiction of the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism and on all streets, roads, and rights-of-way within or contiguous to the perimeter of the property.

Present law authorizes the secretary of the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to appoint state park wardens to be vested with the same authority and power conferred upon regular law enforcement officers.

Present law provides that state park wardens shall enforce all rules and regulations of the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, and may carry concealed or exposed weapons while acting in the course and scope of their duties.

Proposed law retains present law and requires state park wardens to complete a basic certified training program approved by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training and fulfill all requirements for annual basic firearms training.

Proposed law requires that an archaeologist is employed in a full-time capacity at the Poverty Point State Historic Site.

Effective January 1, 2017.

(Adds R.S. 36:204(B)(8) and R.S. 56:1685.3 and 1688(E))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Judiciary B to the original bill

1. Adds requirement that state museum police officers complete a basic certified training program and all requirements for annual basic firearms training.
2. Adds authorization for state museum police officers to make arrests when discharging their duties on property under the jurisdiction of Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.
3. Adds requirement that state park wardens complete a basic certified training program and fulfill all requirements for annual basic firearms training.
4. Changes effective date from August 1, 2016 to January 1, 2017.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Requires that an archaeologist is employed in a full-time capacity at the Poverty Point State Historic Site.