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 DIGEST

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SB 277 Reengrossed

2016 Regular Session

Bishop

Proposed law authorizes the secretary of the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism (DCRT) to employ police 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 annual 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 DCRT and on all streets, roads, and rights-of-way within or contiguous to the perimeter of the property.

Present law authorizes the secretary of DCRT to appoint state park wardens who are vested with the same authority and power conferred upon regular law enforcement officers. Grants state park wardens the authority to enforce all rules and regulations of DCRT and all laws of the state. Additionally grants state park wardens the authority to 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 to fulfill all requirements for annual basic firearms training.

Effective January 1, 2017.

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

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to the reengrossed bill:

1. Remove proposed law requirement that the secretary of DCRT ensures that an archaeologist is employed in a full-time capacity at the Poverty Point State Historic Site.