

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 314

BY REPRESENTATIVES LARVADAIN, COX, AND PHELPS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

EVIDENCE: Provides relative to trained peer support members

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact Code of Evidence Article 518(B) and R.S. 40:2411(C)(6) and (7),
3 relative to trained peer support; to provide for firefighters as trained peer support
4 members; to provide for peer support training by certain organizations; to provide
5 for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. Code of Evidence Article 518(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read
8 as follows:

9 Art. 518. Trained peer support member privilege

10 * * *

11 B. For purposes of this Section, a "trained peer support member" is ~~an~~
12 ~~emergency~~ any of the following persons or entities that provide emotional and moral
13 support or counseling to an emergency responder who needs those services as a
14 result of an incident in which the emergency responder was involved while acting
15 in his official capacity.

16 (1) Emergency responder or civilian volunteer of an emergency service
17 agency or entity, who has received training in Critical Incident Stress Management
18 ~~to provide emotional and moral support to an emergency responder who needs those~~
19 ~~services as a result of an incident in which the emergency responder was involved~~
20 ~~while acting in his official capacity.~~

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 314 Original

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Larvadain

Abstract: Provides relative to trained peer support members to include firefighters within its definition.

Present law (C.E. Art. 518) includes individuals such as a person who provides emotional and moral support to an emergency responder, an emergency responder, or civilian volunteer in its definition of trained peer support member.

Proposed law (C.E. 518 (B)(3)) expands present law to include firefighters.

Present law (R.S. 40:2411(C)(6)) defines "peer support training" as training in peer support and critical incident stress conducted by the Southern Law Enforcement Foundation, the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, Inc., or an equivalent program as approved by the executive director of the La. Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice.

Proposed law (R.S. 40:2411(C)(6)) expands the present law definition to include the International Association of Fire Fighters Peer Support Training.

Present law (R.S. 40:2411(C)(7)) defines "public safety personnel" as an employee of a governmental agency who provides support to peace officers such as a dispatcher, public safety telecommunicator, crime scene and laboratory technician, and criminal analyst.

Proposed law (R.S. 40:2411(C)(7)) expands the present law definition to include firefighters.

(Amends C.E. Art. 518(B) and R.S. 40:2411(C)(6) and (7))