BILL SUMMARY

1st Session of the 56th Legislature

Bill No.: HB 2284
Version: CS
Request Number: 7055
Author: Rep. O'Donnell
Date: 3/8/2017
Impact: All agencies: no impact

Research Analysis

The committee substitute for HB2284 requires training and continuing legal education provided to attorneys employed by a public defender's office to include nationally recognized defense seminars and evidence-based practices regarding behavioral health and treatment of defendants with substance abuse or mental health needs. The measure also requires training on the following subjects to be provided to members of the judiciary, district attorneys and assistant district attorneys:

- dynamics of domestic violence;
- the impact of domestic violence to victims and their children including victim trauma and the neurobiology of trauma;
- identifying dominant aggressors;
- tactics and behavior of batterers;
- victim protection orders and full faith and credit under the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, and
- rights of victims; and
- Evidence-based practices regarding behavioral health and treatment of defendants with substance abuse or mental health needs.

Any new training mandated by the bill is subject to the availability of funds.

Prepared By: Quyen Do

Fiscal Analysis

The CS on HB 2284 deals with specifying domestic violence training (subject to the availability of funds) for the county commissioners and other agencies. This has no fiscal impact on the state as these entities already provide this training.

Prepared By: Kristina King

Other Considerations

None.