

Keep Dixie Police Accountable Act of 2019

WHEREAS many police departments lack police accountability by the general public.

WHEREAS the police are the protectors of the community, and thus have an obligation to be accountable to that community.

WHEREAS for many police departments, the cost of storage for body cameras are often significantly large.

WHEREAS the State of Dixie has an obligation to protect our communities from abusive police officers.

BE it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Dixie:

SECTION I: SHORT TITLE

The bill shall be referred to as the Keep Dixie Police Accountable Act of 2019.

SECTION II: DEFINITIONS

1. "Police officer" shall refer to individuals that are hired by and work for either state or local governments with the intent of enforcing laws, keeping the peace, and protecting their local communities.
2. "Body camera" shall refer to camera equipment that is placed on the body of an individual with the intent to know their actions on duty.
3. "Storage data" shall refer to the overall data created by the body camera to be placed in storage and to be easily retrievable by either the department or by the general public upon request.
4. "Citizen" shall refer to an individual that is not involved in law enforcement.

SECTION III: PROVISIONS

(A) [Title XLVII, Chapter 943.1718](#) shall read as:

1. “(2) Law enforcement agencies shall establish policies and procedures regarding the wearing of, the proper use of, the storage, and the data within body cameras. These policies shall include:
 - a. “(a) Immediate access by the general public within 72 hours of the filming.
 - i. “Exceptions shall be made to exclude footage taking place on private property, unless consent is given by the owner of said property.
 - b. “(b) General guidelines for the proper use, maintenance, and storage of body cameras and their footage.
 - c. “(c) Any limitations on which law enforcement officers are permitted to wear body cameras.
 - d. “(d) Any limitations on law-enforcement-related encounters and activities in which law enforcement officers are permitted to wear body cameras.”
 - e. “(e) Any limitations by an officer to include the information within their body camera within their reports or statements.”
2. “(3) All law enforcement agencies that establish policies and procedures regarding the wearing of, the proper use of, the storage of, and the data of body cameras are expected to:
 - a. “(a) Train law enforcement officials to understand general video editing skills in order to release footage to the public.
 - i. “(i) These law enforcement officials are to not communicate or interact with the department regularly.
 - b. “(b) Ensure that all personnel who wear, use, maintain, or store body cameras are trained in the law enforcement agency’s policies and procedures concerning them.
 - c. “(c) Ensure that all personnel who use, maintain, store, or release audio or video data recorded by body cameras are trained in the law enforcement agency’s policies and procedures.
 - d. “(d) Perform a periodic review of actual agency body camera practices to ensure conformity with the agency’s policies and procedures.”
 - e. “(e) Punish that seek to tamper with footage with the purpose of:
 - i. “(i) Hiding evidence
 - ii. “(ii) Hiding illegal or abusive activities; or
 - iii. “(iii) To recreate a sequence of events that did not occur the way that they did
3. “(4) All law enforcement agencies will be expected to establish civilian boards to look over footage of officers for behavior, and to bring attention to law enforcement agencies and to the local municipality officers exhibiting unbecoming behavior.
 - a. “(a) All reports by these civilian boards will be available to the public within 72 hours of their writing, unless otherwise stated within the procedures of the civilian boards.”

SECTION IV: SEVERABILITY

Should any section of this bill be found unconstitutional, the rest of this bill will remain in effect.

SECTION V: ENACTMENT

This bill will go into effect on July 1st, 2024 unless otherwise stated in this act.

This bill was written and sponsored by Banana_Republic_ (Assemblyman, Socialist) and deepfriedhookers (Attorney General, BMP)