SB 300 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure refines the definition of a private security entity to be a person engaged in the business of providing private security professionals for contracted private security services, and it removes persons who simply employ private security providers from the definition. It clarifies that persons who contract with a private security entity for private security purposes are not private security entities.

Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 The amendment changes the definition of a private security entity to include any person that: (1) for an agreed remuneration or rate of pay, recruits, solicits, supplies or employs workers (a) to perform labor or services for another person that includes private security services, or (b) on behalf of another employer to provide services that include private security services, or (2) enters into subcontract with another person to perform these activities. Changes the effective date to declaring an emergency, effective on passage.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2527 (2021) required licensure of private security entities by the Department of Public Safety Standards and training (DPSST), provided a process for obtaining licensure, and enabled DPSST to sanction entities for violations. Prior to that, only the individual private security professionals had to be licensed. The private security entities and their owners were not regulated. HB 2527 made private security entities responsible for: ensuring that professionals it employs have successfully completed DPPST firearm training with a firearm that matching the make, model and caliber of the firearm the professional will be using on the job; providing training to its professionals on preventing workplace harassment, discrimination, and sexual assault; and informing hired professionals of their rights under employment laws and furnishing itemized compensation statements. It further created a specific whistleblower law applicable to private security entities and provided criminal and civil deterrents to hiring an unlicensed private security entity. All of these changes became effective on Jan. 1, 2024.