

HB 499 -- LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' BILL OF RIGHTS

SPONSOR: Schroer

This bill establishes the "Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights".

The bill defines a "law enforcement officer" as any sworn peace officer, except an elected sheriff or deputy, who possesses the duty and power of arrest for violations of the criminal laws of this state or for violations of ordinances of counties or municipalities of this state. These provisions do not apply to an officer serving in a probationary period or the highest ranking officer of any law enforcement agency.

The bill specifies certain rights a law enforcement officer has when he or she is the subject of an administrative investigation or is being questioned or interviewed. These rights include being informed of the violation, requiring the complaint to be supported by a sworn affidavit, and allowing the officer to have an attorney.

This bill provides that any law enforcement officer who is suspended without pay, demoted, terminated, transferred, or placed on a status resulting in economic loss is entitled to a full due process hearing. The hearing requirements are specified in the bill.

This bill is similar to HB 1889 (2020).