

ILLINOIS COUNCIL OF POLICE

Date: January 6, 2021

To: Richard L. Bruno, President

From: Richard F. Blass

Subject: SECOND AMENDMENT TO ILLINOIS HOUSE BILL 163

TEXT

Members,

On January 5th, HB 163, amended for the second time, was introduced to the Senate and referred to Assignments which consists of the following:

Chairperson :	<u>Kimberly A. Lightford</u>	D
Vice-Chairperson :	<u>Bill Cunningham</u>	D
Member:	<u>Antonio Muñoz</u>	D
Member:	<u>Laura M. Murphy</u>	D
Minority Spokesperson :	<u>Dale A. Righter</u>	R
Member:	<u>John F. Curran</u>	R

This bill effectively eviscerates law enforcement within the State of Illinois. The current General Assembly has until noon on January 13th to pass legislation before the next duly elected General Assembly takes office. Those affected by the Bill include all types of law enforcement including corrections, court services and university police.

Most notably within the 611 pages are the following:

- **Requires In custody death reporting to AG**
- **Requires statewide use of force policy**
- **Eliminates prison gerrymandering**
- **Eliminates Qualified Immunity for police officers, making them civilly liable**
- **Eliminates Officer’s rights to Collectively Bargain, creating a “special class” of public employee who does not have these rights in Illinois**
- **Eliminates impartial arbitration over burdensome residency requirements**
- **Allows for unrestricted and ungoverned disciplinary policies of law enforcement officers**

- **Prohibits departments from taking advantage of cost saving federal surplus programs or allowing the purchase of certain “militaristic” equipment**
- **Allows officers to be punished or fired based on anonymous and unsubstantiated or unverifiable complaints-no sworn affidavits as required by the current Uniform Peace Officers’ Disciplinary Act**
- **Creates a co-responder model for social workers with corresponding grant funding from ICJIA**
- **Mandates that those unsubstantiated and unverified complaints be kept to be used against officers forever, with no destruction and no limits on how they can be utilized to inflict harm on officers**
- **Substantially increases both initial and ongoing education requirements with no money to pay for the increased costs and no assurances that the courses will even be offered**
- **Mandates the use of body cameras by all departments for every officer with no money to pay for the cost of those cameras and a cut in funding if you don’t**
- **Significantly increases the training requirements for those going through the academy and those that are already certified-provides NO money to do this**
- **Defunds any department that does not comply 100% with the requirements of the legislation**
- **Eliminates funding for law enforcement agencies**
- **Requires reporting to National use of force registry**
- **No more suspending driver’s license for traffic violations**
- **Complete ban on chokeholds and anything above the shoulders regardless of threat of serious bodily injury or death**
- **Eliminates Cash Bail**
- **Enacts multiple benefits for felons-including access to victims compensation**
- **Prohibits use of force in almost all situations, and makes officers criminally liable for virtually any use of force**
- **Removes prohibitions against obstructing police officers**
- **Requires duty to intervene**
- **Eliminates felony murder**
- **Institutes 3 phone call bill**
- **Changes parameters for getting a warrant and requires a plan for certain situations**
- **No custodial arrests for Category B or C offenses-citation only**
- **Changes standard for conditions that have to be met to not allow for pretrial release**
- **Eliminates charges for habitual criminals**
- **Charges officers with Official Misconduct, a class 3 felony, for banal and incidental issues**
- **This Bill would be effective immediately**

The Illinois Council of Police opposes this Bill. There are two (2) Republicans within the Assignment for review and Curran is a former Lake County Sheriff.

What can you do? Contact your Senator and Representative to implore them not to support this Bill. You may go to www.ILGA.gov to find the contact information for your legislators. Click the "Members" text under the House or the Senate columns to pull up the list and then just click on your legislator's name. It will list the various contact details for your legislator and you can pick how you want to contact them. You can email them, or call their district office or their Springfield office. Choose whatever one you want, they all work. If you decide to call, you may have to leave a message on a machine or with staff. Do not worry, and it is not important that the legislator call you back. Just be sure to leave in your message that you need them to vote no on HB 163 or bills that eliminate law enforcement from their (and your) community. You may want to get your family members and other non-law enforcement people to call as well.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTACHMENTS [] YES [x] NO



Richard F. Blass