



HR0598

LRB102 23761 MST 32952 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, On January 13, 2021, the Democrats in the
3 Illinois General Assembly passed House Bill 3653, which was
4 the final blow to law enforcement after years of stripping
5 away their powers and protections bill by bill; and

6 WHEREAS, A 764-page attack on law enforcement was filed in
7 the Senate at approximately 3 o'clock in the morning on the
8 13th and called for a vote a little over an hour later, the
9 timing of which made it almost impossible to read and
10 thoroughly vet the bill; and

11 WHEREAS, Less than two hours before the end of the 101st
12 General Assembly, HB 3653 made its way to the House for a vote;
13 no committee hearing was held on the 764-pages, and no
14 opportunity for witness slips was allowed; and

15 WHEREAS, HB 3653 was called to the floor, and multiple
16 members of the Republican caucus wanted to speak on the bill,
17 members who have actual experience in the law enforcement
18 field as law enforcement officers or prosecutors; and

19 WHEREAS, Instead, the Democrats forced the bill to a vote
20 after two Republican speakers and held the voting open as long
21 as was necessary to get their members to vote yes on the bill,

1 which barely passed; and

2 WHEREAS, HB 3653, which the sponsors called the SAFE-T
3 Act, abolished cash bail, hinders law enforcement's ability to
4 apprehend offenders, fails to protect victims, and emboldens
5 criminals by removing consequences; and

6 WHEREAS, This controversial bill that was rushed through
7 the legislature in the wee hours of the morning was not
8 intended to develop a better justice system but is part of a
9 vindictive effort to criminalize and demoralize policing and
10 to delegitimize and destabilize the State's current justice
11 system; and

12 WHEREAS, The new law created a Task Force to study
13 qualified immunity for police officers, created an anonymous
14 complaint process to pressure officers, and made dangerous
15 changes in the use of force by officers, putting both the
16 public and law enforcement at risk; it changed the standards
17 for felony murder to make it more difficult to charge some of
18 our society's most dangerous perpetrators; this new law has
19 created unprecedented challenges for law enforcement agencies,
20 and it has endangered the public; it has made the job of
21 protecting the public all the more difficult for police
22 officers; and

1 WHEREAS, In a convoluted effort to disarm police officers,
2 the new law even contained provisions that intend to prohibit
3 law enforcement agencies from acquiring lifesaving armored
4 vehicles and equipment that is often utilized to assist,
5 rescue, and protect victims of violent riots, mass shootings,
6 and acts of civil unrest and danger; and

7 WHEREAS, Seventeen county sheriffs alone have quit since
8 the passage of HB 3653, and the Chicago Police Department is
9 seeing officers retire in record numbers; officers are leaving
10 the law enforcement professions all while Chicago ended 2021
11 with a record number of homicides, more homicides than any
12 other city in the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, Statistics released by the Chicago Police
14 Department showed that a rise in the number of shootings left
15 more people dead than in any single year in a quarter century;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Police departments all across the State are
18 reporting record number of vacancies in their departments; and

19 WHEREAS, In 2021, Illinois lost nine law enforcement
20 officers in the line of duty, five died by gunfire alone; and

21 WHEREAS, Violence keeps increasing, and the Democrats keep

1 filing bills and pushing legislation that protects those
2 offenders and causes more harm to law enforcement and victims
3 of crime; and

4 WHEREAS, The actions by the Governor with the Democrats of
5 the House and Senate have created a consequences-free
6 environment in Illinois for criminals and organized street
7 gangs; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
9 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we urge the Illinois General Assembly to value and protect
11 crime victims and law enforcement, those on the streets
12 protecting the community and public every day; and be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois General Assembly to
15 repeal HB 3653/the SAFE-T Act in its entirety.