



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021	
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVO		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/8/2021 11:49 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

The Support this bill on its face. I believe in disclosures, playing no games and full Due-Process.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: BRIAN MILLIKAN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-621-0622
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MILLIKAN LAW OFFICE, LLC		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 12180 OLD BIG BEND ROAD		
CITY: KIRKWOOD		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63122
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/8/2021 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021	
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JOSEPH A. PATTERSON		PHONE NUMBER: 314-520-1540	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: ST. LOUIS COUNTY POLICE ASSOCIATION		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 115 BAXTER ROAD			
CITY: MANCHESTER		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63011
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/8/2021 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021	
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: STEPHEN "JAY" SCHROEDER		PHONE NUMBER: 314-353-3200	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: ST. LOUIS POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION/MISSOURI FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: 3710 HAMPTON AVENUE			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/8/2021 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: AMY AXTELL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: amybett@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/6/2021 9:09 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I oppose this bill because it clearly discourages investigations into police misconduct. Strikingly, in a time when investigations into police misconduct are needed more than ever, this bill is a slap in the face to the citizens police are meant to protect. Instead of making it easier for police officers to address misconduct in their own ranks, this bill would make that harder. Time and effort would be better spent finding ways to make sure that police misconduct is handled transparently, which would then increase public confidence in law enforcement. This bill only further reinforces negative stereotypes about a "blue wall of silence".



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021	
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CHERYL LYNN ADELSTEIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-442-3872	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: JCRC		TITLE: DEPUTY DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 12 MILLSTONE CAMPUS DRIVE			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63146
EMAIL: cadelstein@jrcrstl.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2021 2:02 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Testimony in Opposition to HB 499 The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), guided by Jewish values, advocates, educates, collaborates and mobilizes action on issues important to the Jewish community, 60,000 strong in St. Louis. We are committed to pursuing religious tolerance, civic discourse and social justice in St. Louis and beyond. Jews also believe in the concept of B'tzelem Elohim, we are all created in the image of God. This includes police officers, community members, those involved in protest, and those guilty of a crime. The events across the country this past year, along with challenges in Missouri, have shown us the need to establish standards for law enforcement to treat all communities with dignity and limited use of force against minority communities. Jews have both positive and negative experiences with police and policing. We look to and count on the Police to help protect our places of worship from acts of anti-Semitism and domestic terrorism. However, for centuries we were the target of police violence—and not just in Czarist Russia or under the Crusades but in the United States as well. As recently as 1902 on New York's Lower East Side, police attacked the funeral procession of a prominent rabbi. We have experienced both sides of the coin, and our memory shapes our attitude towards present and future police practices. HB 499 includes provisions that would make it exceedingly difficult to hold to account police officers who have acted abusively during protests. It puts onerous requirements on individuals who wish to bring a complaint against an officer and changes that way that investigations against officer conduct can be investigated. It further shields officers against civil claims made against them in their official and individual capacities, which reduces officer accountability. Protecting the due process rights of all is important; however, equality before the law is paramount. We must not afford law enforcement officers particular privilege simply by nature of their employment, especially when they are being investigated for failures in the course of their duty. The JCRC of St. Louis urges you to oppose HB 499.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ELLE HOLLRAH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: krhollrah@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/7/2021 9:41 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Who is this legislation intended to protect? By reading it, it sure can't be the residents of Missouri, particularly the ones of color whose families have been brutalized by law enforcement. I oppose this bill because it will not prevent crime; it will only create more distrust between communities of color and law enforcement and raise crime rates. Maybe a better approach would be to guarantee residents of color equal protection under the law and require law enforcement officers to complete a four-year degree, undergo a licensing process under the Department of Professional Regulation, and be required to carry malpractice insurance like any other professional that has a remote chance of causing financial or bodily harm to the residents of Missouri.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GAIL WECHSLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gailwechsler@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/7/2021 12:40 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a Missouri citizen and I strongly oppose HB 499. HB 499 would impose arbitrary restrictions on police misconduct investigations, undermining transparency and police accountability and would make it hard for police departments to address misconduct amongst their own members. This should not best the direction we are going in Missouri. We need to restore our people's trust in the police if we are truly to reduce crime in this state.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GERALD B AXELBAUM		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: geraldaxe@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/8/2021 12:05 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am opposed to HB 499 which would discourage investigations into police misconduct. This bill would impose arbitrary restrictions on police misconduct investigations, thereby undermining transparency and making police less accountable. Most importantly, the majority of police officers are honorable, but as in any organization there can be some who do not uphold the standards of their training and their misconduct reflects unfavorably on all those who do serve with honor. HB 499 would make it hard for police departments to address misconduct amongst their own members and for this reason I absolutely oppose it. Enacting this bill would have a negative affect on all officers who serve with honor to uphold the law.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOHN STEFFEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: john_steffen@charter.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/7/2021 6:34 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I oppose this bill because it doesn't hold police accountable and it makes the community less safe. Police should protect us not the other way around.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JONATHAN LINDBERG		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: pnh13@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2021 6:23 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As a citizen of St. Louis county, it is already impossible to seek justice when an officer abuses the rights of a citizen. The law should treat all humans equally and this legislation risks creating further distrust between citizens and police who cannot practically be held accountable. In 2008, a St. Louis County police officer made sexually inappropriate comments to a female member of my party at QT. The officer then followed us and pulled us over without cause, furthering his harassment. Citizens do not have proper avenues to be protected from police abuse in Missouri. This legislation will make it worse. Officers already act without fear of accountability or consequences.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KAREN ROGERS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mizzouatheart@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/8/2021 10:49 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I oppose HB 499 because I have experience conducting misconduct investigations as an attorney and believe the time limit would inhibit thorough investigation of difficult cases. HB 499 would impose arbitrary restrictions on police misconduct investigations, undermining transparency and police accountability. HB 499 would make it hard for police departments to address misconduct amongst their own members. Patterns of police violence also reduce public confidence in police and lead community members to see police as part of the problem. We have definitely seen that here in Missouri. Because law enforcement depends on community assistance to prevent crime, police violence has an effect that stretches beyond a single act of violence. This bill would undermine faith in law enforcement by making it even harder to remove law enforcement officers for misconduct. In Missouri, 230 people were killed by police between 2013 and 2020 and 95% of deaths of civilians caused by police are with a firearm. Our current system already favors law enforcement as seen by last week's decision by the Jackson County Prosecutor not to bring charges in the police killing of Donnie Sanders, whom the officer believed to have a gun but instead had a cell phone. I appreciate and value law enforcement officers for the hard work they do to keep us safe. Their effectiveness depends on their credibility with the public they serve. This bill will make things worse, not better. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KRISTIN BOWEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kristinbowencomo@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/8/2021 3:17 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am writing to share opposition to HB 499, a measure that will undermine the important work that communities and police are undertaking to improve police accountability. Missourians have been demanding more accountability from our police, not less. This bill undermines good-faith efforts to make needed changes to our systems that aim to reduce police violence and create transparency. Lawmakers should be fighting for policies that create safer communities for all Missourians. And Missouri police departments deserve support that helps them both combat injustice and build relationships with community members. Instead, this bill would make it harder for departments to address misconduct when it arises among their own members.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021	
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MO DEL VILLAR		PHONE NUMBER: 816-929-6166	
REPRESENTING: AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF MISSOURI		TITLE: LEGISLATIVE ASSOCIATE	
ADDRESS: 406 W 34TH STREET SUITE 420			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64111
EMAIL: mdelvillar@aclu-mo.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/8/2021 11:43 AM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

March 8, 2021 House Crime Prevention Committee Chairman Roberts HB 499 Dear Honorable Committee Members, Thank you for allowing me to provide written testimony today. On behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri and our approximately 15,000 supporters statewide, I would like to express our strong opposition to HB 499. HB 499 will chill speech and distort the purpose of the criminal justice system by treating officer misconduct with impunity. This bill includes legislation known as the "Law Enforcement Bill of Rights." The rights established in this section far surpass any protections that would be offered to any other resident of the United States who is accused of breaking the law, including: - Requirements that any individual who wishes to bring forth a complaint against a law enforcement officer sign an affidavit and face prosecution will limit the ability of law enforcement agencies to curtail bad behavior (line 37). - This bill would allow the accused officer to know the precise investigator who will take point on their investigation, allowing possible incidents of intimidation to occur (line 51). - Under these provisions, almost all conversations related to the investigation of an officer could only occur when an officer is on duty (line 46). In other words, a day off for an officer is a day free of any progress for potential investigations, even if the action under investigation gravely impacted the life of another. - Additionally, this legislation would shield law enforcement officers "against civil claims made against them in their official and individual capacities if the alleged conduct arose in the court and scope of their obligations and duties as law enforcement officers" (line 137). This limits the ability to hold law enforcement officers accountable while requiring their employer to defend their actions done in their private capacity. No one should get a blank check for their actions based on their employment. If, for example, a law enforcement officer decided to pursue an individual who was speeding and, in the course of their actions, they caused the other vehicle or vehicles in the vicinity to crash, according to this language they have a defense for their actions not afforded to any other individual involved in a car crash. This is the opposite of accountability. Protecting the due process rights of all is important; however, equality before the law is paramount. We must not afford law enforcement officers particular privilege simply by nature of their employment, especially when they are being investigated for failures in the course of their duty. I urge you to oppose HB 499 and I look forward to your questions via email. Sincerely, Mo Del Villar Policy Associate ACLU of Missouri



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RANDEE STEFFEN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: randee.steffen2@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/7/2021 6:16 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I oppose House Bill 499. This bill makes it harder to investigate and discipline law enforcement officers for misconduct. In Missouri, 230 people were killed by police between 2013 and 2020 and 95% of deaths of civilians caused by police are with firearm. One of the reasons I oppose this bill is that patterns of police violence reduce public confidence in police and cause distrust between the community and police. Law enforcement depends on community assistance to prevent crime, police violence has an effect that stretches beyond a single act of violence. HB 499 is a terrible bill and would impose arbitrary restrictions on police misconduct investigations, undermining transparency and police accountability and would make it hard for police departments to address misconduct amongst their own members. Please vote against this bill. Thank you, Randee Steffen St. Louis, MO 63146



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RICHARD A. EGAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: egan.egan@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/8/2021 9:59 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill makes investigations into police misconduct more arduous. If they are not guilty of misconduct that will be evident in the investigation. I am opposed to this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Onesuegibson@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/5/2021 5:36 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

HB 499 is an affront to victims of police brutality and families of people killed by police officers without due process. This is a time in which legislation should be calling for more police accountability. Like all Americans, law enforcement officers are already guaranteed due process under the law. The special protections in HB 499 give them near impunity to commit malpractice. HB 499 would limit the ability of law enforcement leadership to remove so-called "bad apples" from the force. Good cops don't want to work with bad cops. HB 499 does not Back the Blue; it endangers good cops, who can find themselves at the mercy of bad actors. Please vote NO on HB 499.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 499		DATE: 3/8/2021
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TARA BENNETT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tarafbennett@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/7/2021 2:40 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I oppose HR 499 because it would discourage investigations into police misconduct and impose arbitrary limits on the same. Police violence reduces public confidence in police and leads community members to see police as part of the problem, and since law enforcement depends on community assistance to prevent crime, police violence has an effect that stretches beyond a single act of violence. This will make our communities less safe, and also make it harder for law enforcement to do their jobs.