

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2023 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Criminal Justice

CS/CS/HB 935 — Chiefs of Police

by Judiciary Committee; Constitutional Rights, Rule of Law and Government Operations Subcommittee; and Reps. Jacques, Giallombardo, and others (CS/SB 998 by Criminal Justice Committee and Senators Burgess and Perry)

The bill creates s. 166.0494, F.S., which prohibits a municipality from terminating a chief of police without providing the chief written notice of his or her termination.

After the chief of police receives written notice of his or her termination, a municipality must allow the chief to appear at the next regularly scheduled public meeting of the governing body of the municipality and allow the chief to provide a full and complete response to his or her termination.

The bill prohibits an employment contract between a municipality and a chief of police from:

- Waiving or modifying any requirements of the bill; or
- Including a nondisclosure clause that prohibits a chief of police from responding to his or her termination at a public meeting.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2023.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 115-0