

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to chiefs of police; amending s.
 3 112.531, F.S.; providing definitions; creating s.
 4 112.5321, F.S.; requiring an employing agency to
 5 provide certain written notice to a chief of police
 6 before he or she may be terminated; requiring certain
 7 governing bodies to allow a chief of police to make a
 8 full and complete response at a public meeting after
 9 he or she is provided a written notice of termination;
 10 providing construction; providing an effective date.

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 12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 14 Section 1. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 112.531,
 15 Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (2) and (4),
 16 respectively, and new subsections (1) and (3) are added to that
 17 section to read:

18 112.531 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:
 19 (1) "Chief of police" means a person, other than an
 20 electd official, who is appointed or employed full time by the
 21 state or any political subdivision thereof to be the chief law
 22 enforcement officer of a law enforcement agency and who is not
 23 covered by the protections under s. 112.532. The term does not
 24 include state law enforcement agency executives whose
 25 appointment or employment is governed by other provisions of

26 law.

27 (3) "Employing agency" has the same meaning as in s.
 28 943.10(4).

29 Section 2. Section 112.5321, Florida Statutes, is created
 30 to read:

31 112.5321 Rights of chiefs of police.-

32 (1) A person employed or appointed as a chief of police
 33 may not be terminated by his or her employing agency without
 34 being provided written notice.

35 (2) If the membership of the governing body of the
 36 employing agency is composed of elected officials, the chief of
 37 police whose employment is terminated as provided in subsection
 38 (1) shall be placed on the agenda of the next regularly
 39 scheduled public meeting of the governing body and he or she
 40 shall be allowed to make a full and complete response to the
 41 written notice of termination.

42 (3) This section is not superseded by any written
 43 employment contract or agreement that provides employment,
 44 discipline, or termination standards or procedures, including
 45 any agreement of nondisclosure.

46 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.