

HB 15 -- LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

SPONSOR: Schroer

This bill prohibits local governmental units as defined in the bill from requiring that, as a condition of employment, law enforcement officers must reside within any jurisdiction. If a local governmental unit already has a residency requirement in effect prior to August 28, 2020, it will be invalid and must not be enforced.

A local governmental unit may impose a residency requirement that is no more restrictive than requiring a law enforcement officer to reside within a one-hour response time.

The bill does not apply to the State Highway Patrol.

Commissioned and civilian personnel of a municipal police force are not subject to a residency requirement of retaining a primary residence in any city not within a county but may be required to maintain a primary residence located within a one-hour response time.

The bill also prohibits any city not within a county and any home-rule city with more than four hundred thousand inhabitants and located in more than one county from requiring that anyone employed as or being considered for employment as a first responder as defined in the bill reside within any jurisdiction. A first responder may be required to have a primary residence within a one-hour response time. Upon enactment, this provision would apply to the City of St. Louis and Kansas City.

This bill has an emergency clause.