

*Enhance Public Trust and Safety.*

# END SPECIAL PROTECTIONS

For too long, special protections afforded by **Law Enforcement Bills of Rights** (LEOBR) have **kept police departments from conducting effective internal investigations and holding officers accountable**, even in the most egregious cases of misconduct, injury, and death. Framed as employment protections, LEOBR laws prevent police departments from cutting ties with their most problematic officers, enabling those officers to continue to **threaten public safety and undermine public trust**.

Minneapolis police records from 2013 to 2019 show

**ONLY 1.5% OF  
CIVILIAN  
COMPLAINTS  
RESULTED IN  
DISCIPLINE.**

Minnesota is 1 of 22 states where LEOBR laws are currently in effect.

## CONSIDER THIS CASE

In Kentucky, a state LEOBR shield against suspending an officer without a hearing played a role in the Louisville Metropolitan Police Department's decision to **continue to pay the officers who killed Breonna Taylor**, a decision that created an additional source of pain for her grieving family.

## WE NEED A BILL THAT WILL...

### **Repeal LEOBR special protections, including**

restrictions on investigations into misconduct; limitations on discipline; limitations on transparency and civilian oversight; destruction of evidence of misconduct.

**OR**

### **Prevent LEOBR special protections from being enacted or expanded**

## The Truth About

# LAW ENFORCEMENT BILLS OF RIGHTS

### MYTH

*LEOBR laws are necessary to protect officers' due process rights in light of the investigation tactics and disciplinary measures unique to law enforcement.*

### FACT

The U.S. Constitution **already ensures that police officers cannot be coerced to incriminate themselves** in order to avoid employment consequences. Civilians are subject to the same investigative tactics without these protections while facing a deprivation of their liberty, an interest much greater than an individual's employment.

### MYTH

*Police need special confidentiality due to greater public scrutiny.*

### FACT

This argument ignores a heightened public interest in police vis-à-vis other government employees. Members of the public are interested in police and correctional officer personnel matters because these public servants are in a singular position to take a person's life or liberty pursuant to their job duties. **The public's stake in police and corrections officer disciplinary matters should warrant fewer restrictions on public participation, not more.**

### MYTH

*LEOBR only provide law enforcement with crucial protections.*

### FACT

LEOBR restrictions are extensive and prohibitive. They can be grouped into four main categories, which include, but are not limited to: **restrictions on investigations** into misconduct; **limitations on discipline**; **limitations on transparency** and **civilian oversight**; **destruction of evidence** of misconduct.