

HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	House File 901 (Formerly HF 539)	House Committee:	PASSED on March 3 (14-7)
Committee:	Public Safety	House Floor:	PASSED on March 24 (95-0)
Floor Manager:	Rep. Gearhart		PASSED on April 17 (92-8)
Date:	May 22, 2025	Senate Floor:	PASSED on April 15 (47-0)
Staff:	Amanda Wille (1-5230)	Governor:	SIGNED on May 19, 2025

Law Enforcement Lateral Transfer

- Allows some military veterans and former federal law enforcement officers to qualify for a transfer into Iowa law enforcement without having to complete the full Iowa Law Enforcement Academy.

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1 – Law Enforcement Academy- Military Veterans with Active Duty Military Police Experience- Former Federal Law Enforcement Officers (80B.20 New Section)

A veteran may qualify to transfer to a law enforcement agency in Iowa without completing the academy training program if they meet the following criteria:

- Minimum four years active duty in the US armed forces.
- Held primary military occupation as a military police officer, or equivalent.
- Successfully completed accredited military police training that meets or exceeds academy standards.
- Received an honorable discharge within three years of applying for a lateral transfer.

A former federal law enforcement officer may qualify to transfer to a law enforcement agency in Iowa without completing the academy training program if they meet the following criteria:

- Minimum four years as a federal law enforcement officer.
- Successfully completed accredited federal law enforcement training that meets or exceeds academy standards.
- Served in this position with in the last three years.

Standards are set for the application process and what documents shall be included.

The council shall review the application and issue a certificate of equivalency to those who meet the eligibility criteria.

Both veterans and former federal law enforcement officers who are granted this certificate must do the following:

- Complete an Iowa specific law enforcement orientation course.
- Undergo any required background checks and psychological evaluations.

Must become certified within one year of the certificate of equivalency or begin process over again.

Council shall develop guidelines and equivalency standards and publish information on the number of individuals who seek this transfer.

Allows a noncertified law enforcement officer to attend a level II academy training program if they have been hired by an agency and meet the qualifications.

Amendment Analysis