AN ACT REVISING HIGHWAY PATROL OFFICER LAWS; CREATING A RECOGNITION OF MERITORIOUS SERVICE ON RETIREMENT; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Recognition of meritorious service on retirement. (1) The highway patrol chief shall award to a highway patrol officer, on retirement, that highway patrol officer's badge, duty weapon, and handcuffs, providing that a committee of three of the highway patrol officer's peers certifies to the highway patrol chief that the retiring highway patrol officer has:

(a) served meritoriously for a minimum of 20 years and must be so honored; or

(b) taken medical retirement resulting from an in-the-line-of-duty injury sustained while providing meritorious service.

(2) The highway patrol chief shall award to a surviving spouse or dependent of a highway patrol officer who died in the line of duty that highway patrol officer's badge, duty weapon, and handcuffs.

Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 44, chapter 1, part 6, and the provisions of Title 44, chapter 1, part 6, apply to [section 1].

Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

- END -
I hereby certify that the within bill, HB 491, originated in the House.

___________________________________________
Chief Clerk of the House

___________________________________________
Speaker of the House

Signed this _______________________________ day of _____________________________, 2023.

___________________________________________
President of the Senate

Signed this _______________________________ day of _____________________________, 2023.
HOUSE BILL NO. 491
INTRODUCED BY S. GUNDERSON

AN ACT REVISING HIGHWAY PATROL OFFICER LAWS; CREATING A RECOGNITION OF MERITORIOUS SERVICE ON RETIREMENT; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.