

Good Evening,

I am emailing you in regards to the police accountability bill. As a citizen of this state, I do not support this bill being passed and I strongly urge you as a representative of this state, for us people, that you reconsider allowing this bill to pass as it currently is written. If approved it will damage the quality of life in CT as we know it. I am satisfied with the way local police officers protect this community. Make no mistake about it, if this is approved, the majority of quality officers will either retire, quit, or move to another state. This is not a police reform bill, it has a hidden anti police stance buried within. I do believe that any extreme wrongful actions by police officers should still hold them accountable, however, this bill is showing police that the general public does not respect them.

This bill is giving more power to the criminals and civilians than to those who put their lives on the line for the good our communities. Stripping police of qualified immunity will force these men and women to hesitate when they would typically act without hesitation on any call in any situation. The argument that this is only going to "occur when an officer has violated someone's civil rights" leaves a very vague area which is not right to the officers to face.

Another issue within this bill is to have justice impacted persons on a review board. Would that not already create conflict of interest and judgement against an officer before anything is brought to the surface? Police officers are judged by a reasonableness standard and should not be judged by a civilian review board. How could a civilian judge an officer's actions to be deemed reasonable or not when they have never been put in a situation that is a life threatening, split second decision that officers face? I could never put myself in harms way to protect another individual, let alone be scrutinized for my decision to protect and serve my community then be expected to put myself in those dangerous situations repeatedly. Can you say you would do that?

There are other points within the bill that seem to have a hidden agenda which are unfair to the men and women who protect us daily. They made the choice to put that uniform on daily to aid our communities and provide a safe environment

I strongly believe this bill needs to be reconsidered, revised, and take more in to consideration for the citizens in the long run of this state. If this bill will not be revised then it should not be passed.

Please consider our children's future and vote no to this outrageous bill.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,  
Amanda Meier