

Joint Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Bryan McMahon. I have been a sworn police officer in the greater Hartford area for 11 years. Throughout those 11 years I have dedicated my life to my profession. I have seen some of the worst of humanity and I have also seen some of the most amazing acts of selflessness a human being can display.

I am writing this letter to you, in regards to the Police Accountability Bill LCO 3471. In its current state, this bill would be devastating to all police officers in the state of Connecticut. The broad language in regards to decertification is alarming and the idea of revoking qualified immunity is unacceptable. These two aspects of the bill, would ultimately be devastating to how I conduct my necessary duties at work on a daily basis.

I am the sole provider of my family, which includes my three children ages 4 and under. I risk my life on a daily basis to help and improve my community. I normally work 16 hour days, four to five times a week to provide a stable life for my family. I cannot fathom how I could continue to work as a patrol officer in the greater Hartford area if this bill is approved. It scares me to think that a citizen review board can vote to take away my POST certification. It scares me to think that all of my hard work could be taken away from me in a civil litigation, which could decimate my finances. It could take away my children's home, my car. It could wipe out all of my possessions and leave me in financial ruin, all for doing my job.

This bill would end modern day policing as we know it. This would mean many cops, like myself, would have to think twice about helping the next domestic violence victim, the next car crash victim, the next victim who is suffering a life threatening gunshot wound. This bill would invoke fear and panic into every cop on the street and would introduce hesitation and second guessing, which could ultimately cost us our lives. I personally would be fearful to go to the next 911 phone call knowing that my hard work could be taken away from me, due to the fact that qualified immunity was a thing of the past.

I put my uniform on each and every day knowing I uphold the oath I took when I started my first day in the police academy. I know my life can be taken in a split second. It hurts me to think that my dedication to this job can be swiftly wiped out with the approval of this bill. I can personally speak for myself, when I say the overwhelming majority of police officers I work with, are amazing people who only signed up to do this job to help our communities. The small percentage of officers who do not live up to the high standards placed upon us deserve to be reprimanded, disciplined, fired or arrested. We are not all that small percent. Please do not group the thousands of us with the few. The thousands of us, need these protections that are currently in place to help protect us and our families, as we protect our communities. This

bill, as is, does not make communities safer, it in fact makes them much more dangerous..
Please allow me to do the job that I signed up for, allow me to provide services to my
community, as I want and intend to. Please allow me to continue to provide for my family.
Please vote down the Police Accountability Bill LCO 3471.

Sincerely,

Bryan McMahon

Glastonbury