

Dear Co-Chairs, Ranking Members, and Committee Members,

My name is Charlie Urban-Mead and I live & vote in New Haven. I am writing in support of LCO #3471: An Act Concerning Police Accountability (AACPA) with certain key amendments.

In particular, I write to support state legislation that supports strong **Civilian Review Boards with subpoena power**, a long-time goal in New Haven. I also believe that any progress toward ending police brutality must include a legislative **fix for qualified immunity**, and a **mandated duty to intervene**, with consequences for officers who stand idly by while their fellows use excessive force. Finally, I request that our incarcerated community members are not forgotten in the focus on police officers: **new regulations must extend to correctional officers in DOC as well**.

I see this bill as a starting point in the work of aligning our budgets with our priorities, and **firmly oppose any increase in funding for municipal or state police departments**. On this same note, the connection must be broken between our military and our police forces, with an **end to the use of military-grade equipment for policing our neighbors**. Future legislative sessions must include real conversations about reinvestments and reparations for the communities of color in Connecticut that have faced brutalities and harm for generations.

This is a moment in Connecticut's history that we cannot let pass by. You have an opportunity to pass strong legislation that will make Connecticut safer for all of our residents, especially our residents of color.

Thank you for your service of our state,  
Charlie Urban-Mead

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