

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 representatives 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. I listened to the testimonies today and would like to point out that it is not feasible to say that there is no room for confusion on the wording within this section of the bill. The wording on this section leaves a lot of room for error when it comes to a lawsuit against the police officer outside of the department. If you sit there and believe that this section will keep the good officers safe and weed out the bad you are very mistaken. The argument that police should not have hesitation simply because of this session to the bill is incorrect. Any good cop can and will be scrutinized as a chunk of the public doesn't not value police, good or bad. They will always be scrutinized for any actions that they make upon citizens or criminals and will have that fear of being sued. Like many did state, this opens up for Many lawsuits to be filed.

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? I understand that the point is to find a way to hold police accountable for actions deemed unreasonable but the standards being put forth with this bill is setting them up for failure. That would be like me saying a surgeon did not stitch my incision up correctly - I have no medical background and couldn't judge a professional without any.

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.

What I found to be extremely disheartening was hearing the numerous police officers have to defend themselves for being good people and truly caring for their communities and who love their profession - but will have to face the decision of protecting their family and loved ones over the communities they strive to serve and protect. They should be able to do both! Listen to them. This bill should not fit the agenda of one side simply because you're looking to make one side of the

argument happy. If that's what you're looking to do, then police will not be here in the long run to even have this bill be enforced against.

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. Listen to both sides of the argument and to the ones that meet in the middle as well find a common ground. Find a way to hold police accountable but leave their immunity alone. If they're immunity will be stripped then all others covered by this should be eliminated as well. To pinpoint one profession is showing who and what matters and it's not all loves and that's what the agenda should cover.

Please reconsider this bill. Please.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,
Christin Bradle