

Daniel Lauer via dkim.mimecast.org

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to me

I respectfully request that the CGA hit the pause button on any police reform bill until more information can be gathered, studied, and strategic plans crafted on how to move forward in a manner that will benefit both the law enforcement community and the citizens we humbly serve. The qualified immunity provision in particular will have drastic long term negative impacts on the law enforcement community, municipal budgets, and crime rates. As a 25 year law enforcement veteran, I can say that 99.9% of police officers serve and protect with fairness, impartiality, and humility. The qualified immunity provision will force many veteran officers to retire out of fear of frivolous lawsuits that may impact how they put food on the table or care for their families. Recruiting new qualified officers, which is already a difficult task, will become nearly impossible. Municipal governments budgets will potentially be busted defending against the myriad of frivolous lawsuits that could be brought forth should qualified and government immunity be changed.

Police Reforms are needed. The duty to intervene, the ban on chokeholds, increased training for officers, and mandating body worn cameras are vital in moving modern law enforcement forward in a transparent and responsible manner. I just caution in moving forward with the mob mentality that is gripping the nation in terms of rushing any police reforms. A handful of days to present and debate a bill that can potentially have impacts for years or decades to come is not the right path to meaningful and long term reforms. One only needs to look at the major metropolitan centers in this country that are already seeing spikes in violent crime as a result of knee-jerk reactions to police reform.

Thank you,

Dan Lauer

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