

I am writing to you today because I do not support the pro-criminal police reform bill being voted on this week. I am a police dispatcher who works with many of the good police officers. They care about their job and the people in their community. Connecticut will lose countless good officers if this bill goes through. You will lose the most qualified and professional officers because it simply won't be worth the risk. Officers will be completely unable and unwilling to do their job in fear for their families, who could have everything taken from them by being sued for one justified interaction with a criminal, while trying to serve and protect the good citizens of CT. Connecticut has a very limited number of use-of-force incidents (.02% last year), where this bill shouldn't even be necessary. Who will want to be a police officer if this passes? Where will new recruits come from once you lose all the good men and women who currently serve?

We in CT know better than anyone how much we need police officers after horrible incidents like the Sandy Hook tragedy or [9/11](#). We do not want our police to hesitate should they have to respond to another active shooter, another domestic violence incident, another home invasion, or even acts of terrorism.

Do we want to be like our neighbor, New York, which is swiftly becoming reminiscent of Chicago with incredible and gross disrespect for the work officers do day-in and day-out, or do we want to maintain our safety and order?

"Qualified immunity is a foundational protection for the policing profession and any modification to this legal standard will have a devastating impact on the police's ability to fulfill its public safety mission," the International Association of Chiefs of Police said in a statement.

Don't give in to the demands of criminals - please consider voting against this bill this week in order to protect the citizens of Connecticut.

Respectfully,

Dawn Rice

Sent from my iPhone