

To Whom it May Concern,

I hope I am not too late to submit my thoughts, opinions and feelings. This will be short. I read through some of the draft bill and found it quite confusing, a lot of terminology I do not understand, and worded in a way that an ordinary person has to decipher it's code.. What I do know is that there MUST be more accountability for officers If there has been complaints against someone for misconduct than it should be looked into by a third party, not from the inside because we ALL KNOW how that goes. People get bought, people get intimidated, people don't care. But having an outside organization that would be responsible for finding truths and facts from hearsay is important. There should be YEARLY mental evaluations for officers. Anyone that has been through a traumatic event can understand how even in one year it can affect a person's judgement and how they respond to situations. And not to out down anyone, but as a source of SUPPORT. In order to have strong, trustworthy people with guns, enforcing laws they should be supported and CALLED OUT when wrong doings happen. For some reason it feels as though any person wearing a blue uniform, carrying deadly weapons, becomes above the law. If we are expected to respect the people who serve and protect then give us the confidence that it will be done rightfully and with justice. Personal insurance for every officer will help keep an individual accountable. MORE TRAINING. Training on how to know the difference and how to handle disturbances brought on by someone with a mental illness or someone who has serious substance abuse issues or someone who is an outright criminal who intentionally causes harm or breaks a law. In this crazy world we have evolved way beyond where humans once were. But one thing will always stand true. We all want the same thing, basic rights. When we feel we can not trust the institutions who are in place to keep us SAFE, then that must be looked at and evolved as well. Thank you for your time. I hope this email does not go unread and I applaud the state of Connecticut for DOING SOMETHING to rise up above what needs to be changed.

Sincerely,
Erica K Pierce