To  CT Assembly Judiciary  CoImmitte:

I, Frank  Benvenuto have been a CT State Trooper for the past twenty-two years. I have served the citizens proudly and with the highest integrity. I have always been proud to tell friends that I come from a family of Police Officers (father, Frank Benvenuto, retired NYPD, a brother, Vincent Benvenuto, retired NYPD, sister, Antoinetta Benvenuto, retired NYPD and due to the current climate; I would not want my three sons to follow in the family tradition of public service.  The proposed Police Reform Bill will be determinantal to me, my family, and the law enforcement community. In addition, to the citizens, we took an oath to serve. The proposal of taking away or restricting Qualified Immunity would put police officers at risk of being sued for doing their jobs. Qualified immunity protect Law Enforcement from being sued if they ACTED within the scope of their employment. For example, what would happen if a police officer responding to an emergency call and gets into a department accident? Why would anyone be a police officer today when the public does not respect law enforcement, police officers are being provoked, criticized, and prohibited from doing their jobs.

Secondly, to have a Citizen Review Board consisted of the recommended panels members is stacking the deck against law enforcement, . To have a CONVICTED FELON on the board, and other selective members of society who have publicly expressed negative opinions regarding POLICE. This Citizen Review Board with its current member's proposals is despicable;  placing uneducated individuals that have NO police training or experience, sends the message to police officers in CT to do nothing, since the committee that will judge the police know nothing about the policing. By not having a representative from the law enforcement community it would not give the board an informed educated perspective on police actions having outcomes that does not reflect the service.

Respectfully,
(Trooper First Class) Frank Benvenuto
Harwinton, Connecticut