

Good Afternoon,

I am a Police Officer in the state of Connecticut and have severe concerns regarding the Police Accountability bill that was introduced to the legislature earlier this month. On the topic of changing the standard of when Officers may use deadly physical force, the standard changing to a reasonable regular person should not be enacted. The current standard should be the ONLY standard of a reasonable police officer in that situation. Unless you are a Police Officer and know what it is like to be in a high stress situation, with people yelling at you, listening to the radio, and having to make a split second decision in the interest of deescalating the situation, a "regular person" has no idea what that experience is like. In our line of work decisions have to be made on the fly and in the moment because calls escalate quickly and people get hurt faster than how the public thinks we should handle the immediate threat. Decisions made in real time are not always the best but the standard has to be objectively reasonable in the eyes of a trained Police Officer because there are considerations Police Officers think of that civilians may never think of during a situation when someone is subject to serious physical injury or death. I urge that the legislature to vote against this bill due to the crippling damage this bill would force upon the average Patrolman in this state.

Thank you,