

Judiciary Committee,

Members of the Judiciary, I am reaching out to you to address my concern with the proposed Police Accountability Bill, LCO 3471.

This proposal is far reaching that will prevent police from effectively performing the jobs we have all signed up to do. It places all the accountability on the police and leaves no responsibility to citizen. When the public learns how easy it is to attack an officer through the administrative process the accusations will be through the roof.

Police in Connecticut already are ahead of the curve in being held accountable. We have cameras, we have very strict policies.

A majority of use of force incidents are the result of police responding to a call for service and the person who becomes the subject of the investigation becomes uncooperative, non compliant or combative. This proposed bill is going to encourage police to allow someone to walk away, not identified and the incident not being fully investigated. Would you risk your livelihood, risk being sued or being arrested because you tried to do your job to the best of your ability?

Police officers are younger and inexperienced in life in many cases. They need additional training. They need increased supervision.

This bill is going to cause current police officers to flee the state and leave the state in a severe shortage of police. None of us want to work under these restrictions. Please consider the end result of this bill before signing it.

99% of police are honored to be officers, we want to do the right things. We do not want bad officers that tarnish our profession to wear the badge. Please help us , don't punish the profession for the acts of very few. Thank you for your consideration.

Joseph Cullen