Regarding LCO #3471: An Act Concerning Police Accountability

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Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I write today in support of LLCO #3471: An Act Concerning Police Accountability (AACPA) - with amendments:

- It is critical that we allow cities and towns to form Civilian Review Boards and provide them with Subpoena power. Citizens are demanding we have a voice beyond protesting in the streets.
- We MUST outlaw police searches without probable cause EVEN WITH CONSENT. Young black and brown people in particular are placed in an impossible situation when asked to cooperate - therefore freely giving "consent" is not possible in a world where denying consent could lead to the your death.
- We MUST outlaw police from asking for personal documents other than a Driver's License (Green cards, Immigration Docs)
- I support Mandating the Duty to Intervene if a fellow police officer witnesses excessive force. In addition to the law holding police accountable when they commit violence against citizens, we must disrupt the patterns of passive disinterest and lack of accountability when other officers sit idly by watching fellow officers commit crimes by making their own behavior criminal as well.
- I fully support the ban of stop and frisk.
- I call for the demilitarization of CT police departments, including the disposal of existing equipment.

That said, I do NOT support the following:

I do not support increased funding for Municipal and State police departments.

I call for the Police Officer Standards and Training Council, currently dominated by Police and Politicians, to be represented equally - or with a majority - of civilians, to ensure that our police are serving the people.

Members of the Committee, this is a critical moment in time and you have the power and the opportunity to do good in the world. Please use your power to support this legislation as a first step towards making Connecticut safer for all of our residents, but especially our residents of color.

Thank you.

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