

I wish to speak AGAINST Section 41 of this bill.

I feel that removing immunity from civil action is a deterrent to police officers in performing their duties to the fullest extent. I fear that the police may be reluctant to intervene in situations that might leave them open to lawsuits. Opening the civil floodgates will have negative consequences.

Having worked in a homeless shelter located in Hartford for 15 years we have relied on the police many times to defuse volatile situations that could have gone south very quickly. I have always observed the police to be professional and acting in the best interest NOT to let things escalate into a larger problem. Staff and other vulnerable shelter residents have been protected by fast acting police action.

I question, would they be willing to come to the shelter fearing legal reprisal?

Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Lusso
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