

Testimony in favor of LCO #3471

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As a social worker, human rights activist, and New Haven resident, I urge the Judiciary Committee to support LCO #3471 and to invest in real safety — jobs, healthcare, and education — not police violence.

I especially support measures in LCO #3471

- **Outlawing police searches without probable cause**, even if the person consents to the search
- **Mandating a duty to intervene** if a police officer witnesses another officer using excessive or illegal use-of-force
- **Ending qualified immunity** for officers who violate people's civil rights
- **Banning stop-and-frisk** in Connecticut
- **Demilitarizing of Connecticut police departments**, including the disposal of all military equipment currently held by police departments
- **Requiring that police officers to prominently display their badge**

I urge you to consider the following:

- **Civilian Review Boards MUST have Subpoena powers.** (As written, the bill says CRB's 'may' have subpoena power).
- As written, the bill would increase funding for police departments. **Instead, let's support the defunding and divestment from police departments and reallocation of these resources for social services**
- The current bill calls for a study be conducted to add social workers to police departments. **Social workers should be used for certain emergency/mental health calls but they should not work under police departments.**

Thank you for listening to the people of Connecticut who are tired of violence and want you to invest in the safety and health of our communities.