

Name: Michael Taylor

Town: Ridgefield

Re: LCO #3471, "An Act Concerning Police Accountability"

Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee:

I am a parent of a wonderful, smart fourteen-year-old young man who happens to be African-American. I am worried about the different treatment African-Americans receive from police officers, not just nationally, but locally.

I have a couple of suggestions for the legislation you are considering:

- 1) **Residents should be provided with easy to interpret information about their local police department.** Perhaps the most frequent interaction officers have is the traffic stop. Connecticut has annual reporting on traffic stops to discover any racial or ethnic differences in the stops. The report is very detailed but also very difficult to understand. It is written by statisticians and can only be read by statisticians.
- 2) **Greater transparency on police training.** Our police department lists titles of training courses officers have taken. The reports should be more detailed to include more specifics about the goals and techniques taught during the training.
- 3) **Bias Awareness Training.** All police officers and all members of boards/commissions that oversee the police should successfully complete bias awareness training.

Thank you for your service and for the effort you are making in this important area.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Taylor'.

Michael Taylor

Ridgefield, CT 06877