

My name is Nathan Russo, and I am a resident of Essex, Connecticut. I understand the intention of the Police Accountability Bill, but it falls short. The People of Connecticut fear that it will not match the demands of the Black Lives Matter movement. To this end, the following edits should be made; and end to qualified immunity, a reduction in the amount of police combat training, a ban on military-grade weapons from local police forces, and ongoing cuts to police budgets in favor of funding non-police emergency task forces. The Bill, as it stands, could lead to greater funding for the police, which is contrary to the progress that needs to be made for racial equity. Connecticut must stand with a nation trying to abolish the police, and this is one step along that path.

Sincerely,
Nathan Russo