

Good afternoon, my name is Randy L. Rianhard. I reside in Westbrook, CT. I'm writing to share my thoughts on the Police Accountability draft bill. I am not able to participate in the virtual listening session of the proposed bill. I will be very brief and to the point. My family and I are small business owners. We own and operate 5 franchised restaurants in the towns of Old Saybrook, Clinton, North Haven and Hamden.

1. We are supporters of the police departments in each town that we own a business in and also in the town where we reside. We depend on the police and see them as our ally.
2. We have always had very prompt professional assistance from each police department and would hate to have their funding or authority reduced in any manner, especially in a climate where its done due to politics and not need.
3. The core issue in my opinion is not individual police officers conduct, but in the union that represents them. Conduct issues must be dealt with internally by the Police Chief or someone in authority that understands the nature of the job and how officers are trained to react to difficult decisions. If infractions happen, the union should not have the authority to offset how the issue is managed and by whom.

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Randy L. Rianhard