

There are a number of aspects of this bill that are going to degrade Law Enforcement in the State of Connecticut.

1.) Requiring Officers to acquire their own Liability Insurance is insane, you will see Officers exiting Departments and recruitment drop to new all time lows. Check on what this type of insurance would cost, would blow your mind. It would be an attorneys dream come true, every minor action taken by an Officer would immediately be taken forward for a lawsuit. I once carried a related type of insurance called "Errors & Omissions Insurance and it carried a hefty yearly premium. If enacted every Police Unions would have to demand major pay increases just to compensate for the cost.

2.) The appointment of an "Inspector General" has every indication of a "Political Appointment" and currently investigations are handled very well through the current system. One can only imagine a sole individual with some anti-law enforcement motivations taken this position. Where would the appeal process be?

3.) Obtaining used equipment from the military should not be stopped. Sorry CT. we are no longer a "Pollyanna Society", there are evil people out there who will use any force to kill Law Enforcement Officers. We need every piece of equipment that can save lives from every perspective, police and civilian. Our cities are under attack, agency staffs are being reduced and budget cuts are being made, all to satisfy anti law and order personnel.

4.) Any thoughts of preventing the use of tear gas or mace like materials should be put in the trash bin. It has always been an effective tool for crowd control and remains so.

5.) There should be no law to prevent an Officer from receiving "Consent" from an individual to conduct a search. How many illegal firearms alone have been recovered through this means.

6.) On a positive note Training should be increased in the area of apprehension tactics. This seems to be the area of most need.

7.) Body cameras should be provided and utilized by all agencies.

These are my areas of most concern and I still see problems with areas of other portions of this bill.

What we are now witnessing in this country by radical individuals who seem to hear the ear of politicians, does not represent the law and order the citizens want and deserve to have.

My name is Robert A. Hathaway (Retired CT State Trooper) and live in Vernon, CT. We are proud of our Vernon Police Department and do not want to see a law enacted that is only

going to handicap the job performance of this and all Law Enforcement Agencies.