Dear Editor,

I am writing in complete support of the bill regarding police accountability. Lawmakers will debate next week in a special session on four bills one of which includes improving police accountability. The bill includes community policing and increased training for officers for interactions with members of minority communities. A 90-day pause in additional military equipment has also been enacted by the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association as lawmakers have begun to question the need for police to have high powered weapons.

The bill calls for all municipal officers to wear body cameras and avoid car searching when occupants are <u>stopped solely for motor vehicle violations</u>. Law enforcement has a recurring theme of structural racism and bias. With this bill, police who act with bias and prejudice will finally be held accountable for their actions.

After meeting with legislative leaders, Governor Lamot says, "you can move the ball 95 yards down the football field, it's just that final five yeards where you have to see what consensus we can reach, but i think we're broadly there."

If this bill is passed and implemented in the law, this will create a safer and more accepting environment for people of color and different ethnic groups. Police officers need to be held accountable for their actions and by passing this bill accountability will be better implemented.