Dear Connecticut Legislators,

My name is Gilbert Rivera and I am a Connecticut resident. I am writing to share my support for “An Act Concerning Police Accountability.” Specifically, I am writing to support the following:

- Granting power that allows municipalities to establish Civilian Review Boards with Subpoena powers.
- Outlawing police searches without probable cause, even if the person consents to the search. Outlawing police offers from asking for any documents (such as green cards, other immigration documents) other than a driver's license from people they pull-over during traffic stops.
- Mandating a duty to intervene if a police officer witnesses another officer using excessive or illegal use-of-force.
- Ending qualified immunity for officers who violate people’s civil rights.
- Banning stop-and-frisk in Connecticut.
- The demilitarization of Connecticut police departments, including the disposal of all military equipment currently held by police departments.
- The requirement for police officers to prominently display their badge. Specifically, Section 41 of the bill should not be altered.

I also want to highlight the components of the bill I disagree with, which include:

- Increasing funding for police departments, whether municipal or state.
- Possibly adding social workers to police departments. Social workers should be used for certain emergency/mental health calls but they should not work under police departments.
- The overrepresentation of police officers and politicians on the Police Officer Standards and Training Council. They make up 12/20 of the Council’s membership. This council should be dominated by civilians not politicians or police officers.

Thank you for your time.

Best,

Gilbert Rivera

An Act Concerning Police Accountability, LCO# 3471