

Testimony in support of:
Bill S.2800- An Act to reform police standards and shift resources to build a more equitable, fair and just commonwealth that values Black lives and communities of color

Submitted by:
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Rep. Aaron Michlewitz, Rep. Claire D. Cronin, and members of the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Joint Committee on the Judiciary for the police reform bill above:

My name is ZAAISH and I am a resident of BOSTON, MA. I am writing to voice my strong **support for** Bill S.2800.

Bill S.2800 is important because I think it is extremely important to have more accountability for cops. I also think there needs to be less aggressive and kinder behavior towards communities of color who have historically been oppressed from our society. We also need more resources in communities of color that are easily disseminated and accessed. This is key to having a fair and secure future for all Americans, not just white Americans.

I think everything listed below is very important and need to be addressed with this bill.

- Banning chokeholds and use of tear gas; reduces institutionalized violence
- Shifts resources to communities historically negatively impacted by aggressive policing
- limiting qualified immunity and holding cops accountable
- Proposes a statewide certification system for officers
- limits use of face surveillance technology
- It would also create a Police Officer Standards and Accreditation Committee, which would be empowered to monitor and investigate police conduct, license law enforcement, and *revoke* licenses for violent or racist behavior and other misdeeds
- Police would need to be re-certified every three years, and the state would maintain a searchable database for police departments hiring new officers to review an applicant's history.

A brief case in point/personal anecdote is always helpful.

I respectfully urge you, Reps Michlewitz and Cronin, and the members of the joint committees to support this very important legislation.

Thank you.

Zaanish Pirani