

TO: Massachusetts State Representatives

CONCERNING: Police Reform Bill S2820

Thank you in advance for taking the time to review my letter and providing an opportunity to be publicly heard on the pending Police Reform Bill. My name is Carl Supenor and I'm a Captain on the Worcester Police Department with 25 years of service. Prior to my law Enforcement career, I spent 4 years in the United States Marine Corps serving this Country. During my 29 years of public servitude, I have never been so upset, frustrated, and disappointed with the knee jerk reaction and the unwarranted rush to reform the police. This reaction is based on a false narrative in Massachusetts that is unsupported by evidence.

You all have a profound responsibility to ask yourselves a simple question, is there an identified need to reform policing in the Commonwealth and if so, is there supporting evidence and facts that are driving your decision?

What's being purported is, all police institutions are systemically racist and commit acts of police brutality on minority communities. Being objective as I can, I did what I would expect all of you to do, look for evidence and facts of that claim and see if it's at all true. I can tell you based on my intimate knowledge of policing in Worcester and based on State and National research, there isn't any evidence to support this narrative. I ask you to do the same, slow down, do the research, review all the data, create committees and study groups to find the true answers before we make sweeping police reform. It is your sworn duty and responsibility to seek out the truth and not to move forward until you have the answers. If you don't, the damage that's already been done and that will continue to happen, will be permanent and irreversible. The unlawful killing of George Floyd did not create a public emergency here in Massachusetts, but the lack of accountability and responsibility by the Governor and The Senate are creating a real public safety crisis by acting on their emotions and not the facts.

I do not support this Bill, there is so much wrong with it that I don't dare try to line item each and every issue. Only after serious deliberation and debate, with all concerned parties involved, will we have a chance to get this right. In closing, I ask you all to provide evidence based research PUBLICLY to support whatever decisions you make, thank you for your time and your public service.

Carl Supenor

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