

I am very grateful that our legislators have listened to the many hours of testimony provided over the past several months regarding the dangers posed by tear gas and other chemical incapacitants to the health and safety of everyone in our community. So many neighbors, friends, and community members took the opportunity to share their experiences, many of them harrowing, and I am very glad that legislators have truly listened and decided to act. Weapons banned in international warfare have no place in domestic policing.

This bill also contains another significant triumph, the removal of the riot immunity loophole that has been a major impediment to justice. It is important that the public be able to hold officers of the law accountable for their actions in meaningful ways, and this bill is a significant step in the right direction.