

Members of the Oregon Legislature:

Good morning,

Thank you for considering my testimony on SB 621, which I am submitting on my own behalf.

Please vote against this ill-intentioned bill.

As a third generation Portlander, now resident of unincorporated Multnomah County, I have witnessed the repellent displays of vandalism, street violence and rioting that have made a wasteland of our once gracious downtown and small business communities. My work place is in downtown Portland, although Covid and the riots have caused my co-workers and me to work from home since last April.

The only example of courage we have witnessed throughout this past year has been the daily performance of duty by our Portland Police Bureau officers and other first responders -- men and women of many races and ethnicities.

These are excellent public safety personnel; although they rarely receive any expression of gratitude by local officials or accurate reporting by the media.

The Portland Police have excellent training and are highly qualified for their work. They have a dangerous job. They deal with the worst of Portland every day-- while trying to keep the city, its businesses, streets and people safe . They are dedicated to making Portland a good and productive place by upholding its laws -- and regardless of substandard leadership by our local elected officials. Ask yourselves why certain local politicians are attempting to further shackle the work of our law enforcement officers and make the patrol officers' work even more difficult and dangerous.

By trying to wreck the Portland Police Association's legal contract with the City, what do these politicians have to gain?

Thank you for your consideration.

Please oppose SB 621.