

As a career law enforcement officer, Master Defensive Tactics Instructor, Baton, Tazer, Pepper Spray, and Firearms Instructor, I also am a graduate of the Eugene Metro SWAT School, and commanded the Oakridge Emergency Tactical Response Team for seven years, I am also now a writer, I find the pendulum of societal opinion on policing has swung far to the left, It is my desire to see this bill die in committee rather than take chance on being passed. Law enforcement in today's policing environment has been constrained in its use of force in situations with regards to deploying impact munitions and chemical restraints by over-regulation, not only through the state but through public opinion.

Let us look at the reasons for deploying these tools, When a subject is non-compliant (in almost all cases they are given multiple verbal commands,)at riots where they are often destroying property, looting, rioting, and general insurrectionist behavior, and as a tool of defense of the officer when they do not or cannot move to another tool in their arsenal, I would rather be sprayed with pepper spray than hit with a baton as an example. I would rather have a bean bag deployed on me than be tazed, and I have been tazed, as an instructor I took the full five second ride and I would rather let you shoot me with a bean bag round than be tazed again for five seconds, if you do not believe me go down to your local police department next time the do tazer training and ask to join in and be trained. Most police departments would gladly have you participate in their training, and as a retired police officer who has trained many classes on the matter, I am sure those instructors will not hide anything from you they will enable you to get as real an experience as each officer gets. Consider if you will riding with officers on ride-alongs, watch how they do their jobs, you will see they have more regulation on them currently than is needed, adding more will not be beneficial for anyone except the criminals who will be able to capitalize on the fact that the officer has to decide if this is according to policy or the new regulations on these tools.

The current regulations are sufficient, you are trying to fix what is not broken. I am available for conversations regarding this and anything else you want to talk about concerning law enforcement as a Trainer in pretty much every area of Use of Force and as a martial arts instructor and having coached Mixed Martial Arts for many years, I know the use of force and the safer uses of force that can be done and taught in today's dynamic political arena without causing use to overregulate an already burdened system.

Try and remember the officer on the ground, give them simplest regulations and let them use their training and experience to make good decisions to keep Oregon safe, if they violate policy use progressive discipline and retraining to fix those areas, if they violate the law or a persons civil rights prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law.

First and foremost, remember they are human just like those they serve, people say their is a blue line between the public and the police, overregulation just inflates this. Training and simple regulations and laws and community policing together, and backing our public and our officers the same is all I ask.

Sincerely

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