

Submitter: annie capestany
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB4008

When middle-class, middle-aged white ladies (like me) are out protesting the police, what does that tell you? that there is a big problem. i was out in the streets in 2020, getting tear-gassed, not just to get rid of the feds, but to end ALL police violence and inequality and racism. The Portland police scare me, in particular because i have a Brown child and other Black family members and friends. There is much we need to do to change the system. The laws passed in 2021 were just a beginning. we cannot revert back to letting police use tear gas and other supposed "non-violent" practices. We have seen that the training the Portland police get is racist and biased. We have seen the statistics showing how unfairly the laws are applied. (and that most of the "crime" is houseless people being harassed by police.) We have seen the research that shows crime fluctuates regardless of how many or how few police officers we have. We have all sorts of evidence that shows that the mostly white Portland police force is violent and racist.

The police are hired by the people. Their power comes from the people. They should be beholden to the people. It is time to listen to the victims: the Black people, the Brown people, the houseless, the poor. It is time to listen to the white allies who support justice and equity. We don't want police violence. We want to take away the "tools" police use to brutalize and threaten people.

VOTE NO on HB4008. don't go back to the condoned violence of before. Don't listen to the copaganda that exaggerates the reality on the street. More police violence DOES NOT make us safe. weapons of war do not belong on city streets.