

Submitter: Sandy Chung  
On Behalf Of: Community Member 19  
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: HB4131

Community member 19, Portland: At 42 years old I experienced the first spontaneous menstruation of my life after being gassed on a lovely Sunday afternoon while standing in Chapman Square. It was Day 10 of my cycle. Near as I can tell, I had at least five other spontaneous menstruations 12-24 hours after being gassed during the summer of 2020. All told, I had eight periods in a three month period. It took months for my cycle to return to normal. I have serious and valid concerns about the long term health consequences of the often expired gassed that PPB, MCSO and OSP deployed with abandon and without warning downtown and throughout the neighborhoods of our city, not just for myself but for fellow protesters, my neighbors in their homes, and children in their beds.

Well into the fall, just stepping into Chapman or Lownsdale Squares set of sneezing, a sore throat, and a headache from leftover residue being kicked up with every step. I watched videos of city sanitation workers hosing the residue into sewers, eventually into the river. I watched the entire waterfront become so thick with tear gas that it was impossible to see. Much of this landed directly in the river. I also have serious and valid concerns about the long term consequences of this ground and water saturation for the health of our citizens and ecosystems.

PPB, MCSO, and OSP proved time and again and again and again over the course of 2020 that they should never, ever be trusted with the ability to deploy tear gas in our city, much less potentially fatal impact munitions. I honestly find myself shocked that any reasonable and even minimally informed person could even consider it.