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HB4131 Testimony
Portland, Oregon

I am asking you, as elected officials, with a moral and ethical obligation to serve and ensure the health and safety of the people of your constituencies, to oppose HB 4131.

The indiscriminate use of crowd control munitions, namely CS Gas and OS Gas by Portland Police Bureau, caused irreparable and permanent harm to community members and the land.

[In a video posted by The Oregonian](#) on July 1, 2020 from an incident that took place on June 30th, 2020 in a North Portland neighborhood, Portland Police fired sparking tear gas canisters directly at protestors standing in the parking lot of a Shell gas station.

This is one example of the irresponsible, aggressive and escalated incidents Portland Police created. This exact scenario created an imminent threat of explosive action with the mix of an accelerant like gasoline and fire.

Additionally, the use of crowd control munitions like CS & OS gas have no attached or clarified protocols.

It is the sole duty of Portland Police to protect and serve. These tactics are not rooted in community service or de escalation practice. They are shows of force from a militarized police bureau more interested in quelling constitutionally protected rights of free-speech and assembly than advancing true public safety. It now, squarely falls on the shoulders of lawmakers to protect your constituencies from an out-of-control, under-trained police force.