

Submitter: Chris LeDoux  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary  
Measure: HB4131

Dear House Committee,

Thank you for accepting my written testimony. Thank you to the ACLU and many others who are advocating against the use of chemical weapons on our communities. I am asking you to vote against HB 4131.

Whenever tear gas is used, it is indiscriminate. But the way that the Portland Police employ tear gas is far from indiscriminate. We do not live in a world in which communities are treated equally, and this applies no less to the use of tear gas against communities and within different neighborhoods. Portland police used tear gas against some protesters, but not others (see US police three times as likely to use force against leftwing protesters, data finds | US policing | The Guardian). In some neighborhoods regularly and without question, and never in other neighborhoods. They used it without regard to neighbors when people needed open windows and or to people who were unhoused and had no protection from what is a chemical weapon of warfare.

Chemical weapons and impact munitions should not be used against citizens in any neighborhood or part of cities in Oregon. These are weapons of warfare and have no place in our response to demonstrations. Please do not roll back safety and health. Thank you.

Respectfully,  
Chris LeDoux