

To the Joint Committee On Transparent Policing and Use of Force Reform,

In light of COVID, the use of chemical irritants compromises the respiratory health of both the individual and the community around them. The use of these irritants by law enforcement in no way protect or serve the people. Less than lethal rounds have recently blinded a number of protestors nationwide and should also be banned. Law enforcement should be able to protect themselves and the property they guard while performing their obligation to protect and serve the citizens exercising their 1st Amendment rights. This is what we pay them over 200 million dollars every year to do, and doing so without using tear gas and LTL rounds would demonstrate they are competent in this role.

Law enforcement has and continues to fail in this role.

Law enforcement have failed to protect and serve, a result of having to rely on police to refrain individually, an exploitation of ORS 166.015, which says one person throwing a tear gas canister back justifies use of force on the entire crowd (a gross inefficiency addressed in Representative Anna Williams' vote explanation June 29th). The ongoing failure by law enforcement to use chemical irritants and less than lethal rounds into the taxpaying community compels myself, a mid-40's salaried white man, to demand the complete banning of chemical irritants and LTL rounds. Our community calls on the committee to demonstrate the leadership many of the older generations still hope you are capable of.

Thank you.

-Ryan Considine

resident of Tigard OR for 7 years