

I am calling for an amendment to House Bill 4208. I ask that you remove the riot exemptions for the use of tear gas or other similar chemical dispersants. Additionally, the bill needs to make illegal the sale, purchase, or use of tear gas and all less lethal crowd control munitions by all Oregon law enforcement.

PPB has for the past 50 days been declaring peaceful protests "riots" in order to suppress citizens' civil rights; they have consistently shown that they desire control more than justice, and I have no trust in their ability to make good-faith decisions about the health and safety of our community during this historic civil rights crisis. You have the power to limit their ability to violently control protesters; please use it now. We need your leadership.

-Megan Emerson
SE Portland resident and homeowner