



GRESHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

Claudio Grandjean

Captain

1333 NW Eastman Parkway • Gresham OR 97030

Phone 503-618-2320 • FAX 503-665-1639



MEMORANDUM

To: **Members of the Joint Transparent Policing and Use of Force Reform Committee**

From: Captain Claudio Grandjean, Gresham

Date: July 30, 2020

Subject: **LC 745—Testimony Regarding Chokehold Ban Legislation**

Good Morning Co-Chairs Bynum and Manning and Members of the Committee:

For the record, my name is Claudio Grandjean. I am a Captain with the City of Gresham and have served for 33 years for the city I grew up in. I am here today to provide testimony on LC 745.

The HB 4203, passed in the last 2020 Special Legislative Session, is an appropriate restriction to the use of what is commonly referred to as ‘chokehold’ by a peace officer. By restricting the technique to only when deadly physical force is authorized, an officer would be using this only in the defense of his or her life or the life of another. I think its important to note that under that circumstance, an officer would be using it only as a last resort. This would make the use of the technique extremely rare and only in the most dire circumstances.

While officers should always work to de-escalate and preserve life, its important to recognize that officers are sometimes placed in circumstances in which deadly force is the only option. Eliminating one of the tools in these rare circumstances would endanger officers and the public. The unintended effect is that a citizen would continue to have this force option while at the same time taking it away from law enforcement officers during deadly force encounters.

We ask that you maintain the current deadly force exception as provided in HB 4203 and not move LC 745 forward.

Thank you for your consideration.