

It is time to be bold. The lack of innovation and protections for protestors is highly concerning, particularly around LC 742/ LC 17. Why should law enforcement still be able to use "riot" control weapons at all? Because of property damage? Why is sanctity for human life, especially those within the margins, systematically disregarded for concessions to the police? Don't Shoot Portland, released a study detailing the impacts of tear gas in particular on humans and the environment. We are in the midst of a global pandemic, the neverending pandemic of racism, and a climate catastrophe. We NEED healthy people and a healthy environment more than ever. We do not need police like the Portland Police Bureau who maim and violate protestors on nightly bases while protecting a caravan of white supremacists. In what other jobs would someone be able to cause physical harm without being let go? Why are the police and their actions an exception to every common-sense role in the treatment of people and the environments in which people live? Saturday will mark 100 days of protests in Portland. The people have not stopped assembly even with heightened state and white supremacist violence. Law enforcement's abilities to cause harm needs to be curbed. Move back to the language of the first draft of LC 742/ LC 17. People's lives and safety as well as that of our environment depend on it.