

Testimony in support of LCs 17, 18, 19, 20

Evelyn Shoop Police Reform LCs Testimony

Thank you to all on the committee for your leadership and listening ears. My name is Evelyn Shoop. I live in Washington County, and I'm a long-time member of St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church in Beaverton.

The legislation put before you is simple. It's straightforward. And it's overdue. Millions of us are asking for action across the country.

This is why I stand in support of LC's 17, 18, 19, and 20.

This July, I stood chanting the Lord's prayer quietly, unarmed, a few feet away from officers looking like Storm Troopers. My group was tear-gassed. My friends were pushed up against bicycle racks. I've had friends shoved down and bleeding, their eyes burning.

Jesus asks us simply to love our neighbors as ourselves. Our neighbors and neighborhoods are being tear-gassed.

We wonder how we would have acted during the Holocaust, during the Civil Rights movement, during Jesus' persecution. I watch as people continue to proclaim only thanks for the police and not acknowledge the damage that's happening to our Black siblings and our friends seeking justice. The good things police do does not mean that we can't recognize the bad and fix it.

Jesus always stood with the oppressed. This moment is a chance for us to do the same.

Sincerely,
Evelyn Shoop
Washington County