



**Date: 6/25/2020**

**RE: Comments in support of HB 4201**

Central City Concern (CCC) is a non-profit direct service organization that provides integrated primary and behavioral health care, supportive and affordable housing, and employment services to people impacted by homelessness in the Tri-County area. Central City Concern operates about 2,100 units of affordable housing, serves 9,000 patients annually through our 13 Federally Qualified Health Centers, makes 1,200 job placements annually. **Our programs and properties span Districts 33,36,42,43,44,45,46,47,48 and 50**

“We repeatedly see violent officers keep their jobs, and there is an undeniable white supremacist culture that pervades law enforcement across America. I believe police unions are far too strong. It is extremely difficult to fire bad cops, and because that is true, the workplace culture often just ROTS. Police officers are the people who we give guns out of trust that they will protect us. With that trust needs to come an exceedingly high standard for conduct and ethics.” *John Cairns, Employment Specialist, Employment Access Center*

The use of force that leads to death should be held to the highest levels of accountability. Everyone, by right in our constitution, is innocent until proven guilty and has a right to due process. When an officer takes someone’s life, they are committing a grave act against the basic humanity of that person and all the community members who will be impacted. We cannot have safe, healthy and strong communities if officers are allowed to be street level executioners.

Thank you,

Mercedes Elizalde  
Public Policy Director  
Central City Concern