

To the committee:

Whether you intend to or not, these overly broad “protections” for police officers will provide cover for excessive force and expensive lawsuits for governments when the police are sued. We have seen how police can accuse protesters of resisting arrest, etc., as cover for the police doing what they want to do, whether the person who is arrested has done anything. These abuses and more became very public this summer, when police in several instances used excessive force against peaceful protesters. Excessive force by police, and the mistrust of police that it produces, already exist. This bill will only exacerbate the problem. Please stop HB 22.