



Professional Firefighters of Attleboro Local 848

*Affiliated with the Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts and
International Association of Fire Fighters AFL-CIO CLC*

Honorable Aaron M. Michelwitz
Chairman
House Committee on Ways & Means
State House, Room 243
Boston, MA 02133

Honorable Claire Cronin
Chairwoman
Joint Committee on Judiciary
State House, Room 136
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairman Michelwitz and Chairwoman Cronin,

17 July 2020

On behalf of the Attleboro Firefighters Local 848 Membership we write to you today regarding our concerns with **SB 2820 An Act to reform police standards and shift resources to build a more equitable, fair and just commonwealth that values Black lives and communities.**

As you are aware, there has been ongoing discussion nationwide and more recently across Massachusetts regarding Police Reform. This week the Massachusetts Legislature passed a bill in the Senate (SB2820) that has caused great concern due to the scope and precedent it could set for the rights and protections of not only Public Safety Employees, but **all** Public Employees.

There are a few major concerns with the following policies in SB2820 that we recommend be addressed in the House version.

- The Lack of Due Process and Attack on Collective Bargaining
- The Expansion of Civil Liability to All Public Employees/Limits Qualified Immunity
- The Bill Creates One of the First, if Not the First, Licensing Agency that is Not Composed of a Majority of Professionals

Our parent organization, The Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts (PFFM) have submitted written testimony that we unequivocally support.

We look forward to these recommendations being deliberated in the House and urge you to remove the listed policies and qualified immunity language from SB2820 and revisit these specific concerns with a special commission.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

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and Executive Board
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