



# WATERTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Via email: [Testimony.HWMJudiciary@mahouse.gov](mailto:Testimony.HWMJudiciary@mahouse.gov)  
Attention: Chair Aaron Michlewitz and Chair Claire Cronin

Regarding: Concerns to Senate 2820 – as amended

Dear Chair Michlewitz and Chair Cronin,

Please accept the following testimony with regard to SB2820 – an act to *reform police standards and shift resources to build a more equitable, fair and just commonwealth that values black lives and communities of color* submitted to the House on July 15<sup>th</sup>. I know over the next few days you will be inundated with responses from police departments, as well as various inter-police agencies across the Commonwealth, so I do not want to take up any more of your time than is absolutely necessary.

I agree with everything in Major Cities Chiefs President Brian Kyes' statement. I am very concerned with the effect the passing of SB2820 will have on the future of policing in Massachusetts. The position of police officer within this State has always been revered, held in the highest regard. We take pride in selecting candidates from the many qualified who take the exam and go through the process of becoming a police officer by meeting the standards set forth by the State and individual departments.

With the impact recent developments across the Nation have had on policing as a whole, I believe this bill's passage will become a factor in causing a dramatic decline in those who pursue a career in law enforcement and as a result, forcing us to look at lesser qualified candidates when recruiting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael P. Lawn".

Michael P. Lawn

Chief of Police

MPL:jp