

Qualified Immunity Public Comment Submission

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To: Manning, Jacqueline O. (HOU) <Jacqueline.O.Manning@mahouse.gov>

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To Members of the Qualified Immunity Commission:

My name is Helen Raizen and I live at 75 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, MA. I am a member of the Boston Ward 19 Democratic Committee.

I am writing to support abolishing qualified immunity for police and corrections officers in Massachusetts. These folks need to be held accountable for their mistakes that result in serious harm or death to other members of the community. Excessive violence erodes the trust between our communities and police. The Globe Spotlight story about "The taking of Cell block 15" shows that it also harms vulnerable people who are incarcerated. We know that these harms inordinately affect black, indigenous and other people of color. We need transparency around the behavior of law enforcement and corrections officers toward people, who have the right to live without undue physical violence.

Please use the opportunity afforded by the Qualified Immunity Commission to get rid of qualified immunity in Massachusetts.

Thank you for your consideration and your service for the Commonwealth,

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