

Government Oversight

S.3912 is a Senate bill sponsored by New Jersey Senator Cory Booker which has a stated purpose "To hold law enforcement accountable for misconduct in court, improve transparency through data collection, and reform police training and policies." On its surface, the bill sounds like it seeks to improve policing in our neighborhoods. Senator Tammy Baldwin signed on as a supporter of the bill, as did all most of their leftist comrades in the US Senate. That was the part that got me thinking...and worried. So I read the bill, and you should too! Because the bill is longer and has many moving parts, today I am going to focus on just a small portion, and I will have more writings in the future as we dissect the bill for all its details.

The wording and overall goal of the bill struck me as hypocritical within the first few pages. Near the top, a section defines the "Professional Civilian Oversight Organization" as "...a membership organization formed to address and advance the cause of civilian oversight of law enforcement..." The bill says little to nothing about the make-up of the organization, their stated goals, funding sources, lobbying efforts, or ties to other questionable groups. The hypocritical component, however, is that with professionally trained law enforcement, it is acceptable by these types of groups to monitor, investigate, record, publicly release information, hold hearings, and engage in any type of oversight as deemed appropriate by the left. Juxtapose this with their refusal to disclose what teachers are teaching, consideration of anything about the teacher's values or agenda, the fact that there are seldom cameras in the classroom, or that parents aren't allowed to influence the curriculum by any measurable amount. I recall the Justice Department actually calling parents who stood up for their kids at school board meetings "terrorists". Finally, can you imagine if a United States Senator introduced a bill mandating civilian oversight of a professional educator, resolved to hold the teacher accountable for the student scores, or investigated them and charged them criminally for the social mess that follows a student after the attempted indoctrination we hear about so often? Their unions and bought and paid for Representatives would howl in terror. In essence, what Senators Booker, Baldwin, Warren and the rest of their gang are really demanding is "trust their preferred professionals in closed classrooms with your children with an undisclosed agenda and books of their choosing, but vilify officers who deal with murderers, rapists, child molesters, drug dealers (and other darlings of the left) because of a few rogue officers, and then be held accountable to a civilian authority who know nothing of strapping on the Kevlar vest and the sacrifice that comes with it".

When seconds can mean lives, police are trained to respond and sacrifice rather than run. They must engage with the darker side of society, the criminal and the vengeful, but also those who are having a mental crisis, a family crisis, and genuinely need help. The problem with such oversight is that when someone has a weapon and are a threat to themselves and others, officers often do not have the prior knowledge of someone's mental state and must make a decision to protect society as a whole. This is one of the reasons I have made mental healthcare a cornerstone of my campaign. Not just for law enforcement and returning soldiers, but for all Americans. We must do better as a society. To lay the blame for tragic loss of life solely at the feet of the law enforcement community is like saying all teachers need to be watched, critiqued, recorded, and indicted because of the select few who may use schools as a petri dish for social engineering. Back to Tammy.

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She responds to a constituent about her support for S.3912 with her argument of outrage at "systemic injustices", a "culture of policing in America" and "systemic biases", sounding like the approved narrative from the left's land of unicorns and rainbows. She says nothing of the culture of violence for many of these criminals, that people committed these violent acts and that police are simply responding to the crime, or that the left coddles these "victims" that the more sane among us call criminals. We certainly need a cultural shift, an examination of who we are as Americans. We just don't need Tammy's preferred action. Are we a nation of victims who, because so many are guilty, that no one is responsible? I think most Americans are better than she gives us credit for. Officers should never abuse their role in society, and most of the time, they get it right. We don't need to lay this on law enforcement. We need to again find reverence for these brave men and women while holding all of society individually responsible for bad behavior, for poor choices, and to uphold the law. This campaign is in full swing and I look forward to meeting and talking with you. Please reach out to Staceyforwisconsin.com and let's bring the change our nation needs and deserves.

Stacey Klein

US Senate Candidate