



Resolution to Back the Blue

Whereas Hawai'i's law enforcement officers put their lives on the line every day so that we may enjoy a less violent and more lawful society;

Whereas maintaining law and order is fundamental to the safety, security, and prosperity of our communities;

Whereas police do much more policing in high crime communities and have many more encounters with the people of those communities therefore adverse police interaction outcomes per racial component of the population without adjusting for police encounters is meaningless;

Whereas a 2015 Justice Department analysis of the Philadelphia Police Department found that white police officers were less likely than black or Hispanic officers to shoot unarmed black suspects;

Whereas the latest in a series of studies undercutting the claim of systemic police bias was published in August 2019 in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in which the researchers found that the more frequently officers encounter violent suspects from any given racial group, the greater the chance that a member of that group will be fatally shot by a police officer and there is "no significant evidence of anti-black disparity in the likelihood of being fatally shot by police";

Whereas research by Harvard economist Roland G. Fryer Jr. found no evidence of racial discrimination in shootings and purported evidence to the contrary fails to consider crime rates and civilian behavior before and during interactions with police;

Whereas some research has found "Even when officers report civilians are compliant and no arrest was made, blacks are 21.2 % more likely to endure some type of force in an interaction";

Whereas Derek Chauvin alone "had 18 complaints filed against him, only two of which were "closed with discipline"" and was still on the Minneapolis Police Force;

Whereas there is evidence that arbitration protocols in police union contracts need to be properly structured to avoid the retention of bad police officers which adversely impacts the vast majority of good police officers and the public; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Hawai'i Republican Party in virtual convention on May 15, 2021:

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1. recognizes the need for a close examination of police union contract specified arbitration proceedings and other components of the union contract that can potentially allow bad police officers to stay on the force, and harm our system of justice and the vast majority of police officers who are stellar;
2. condemns those in positions of political power (to include celebrities) who prejudge specific cases that juries of our peers are in the process of deciding with all the facts;
3. urges our Congressional delegation to consider the police reforms recommended by Senator Tim Scott 6 months ago;
4. condemns those who willfully ignore the facts and claim there is systemic racial bias in police shootings on a national level by using non-encounter data;
5. expresses gratitude to the brave men and women of Hawai'i's law enforcement agencies who selflessly serve our communities; and
6. will post copies of this resolution on the Hawai'i Republican Party website and transmit copies to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i; the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, members of the Hawai'i State Legislature, and the Mayors of each County.

References in addition to embedded hyperlinks:

[Police Union Contract Arbitration Requirements Keep Bad Cops On The Job - The Truth About Guns](#)