

Yaël Coley-Greene

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My name is Yaël Coley-Greene, and I'm a concerned Colorado resident/a survivor/and a mother. I'm testifying on the "concerning the retention of blood draws for fourteen days for use in investigations" bill that's being presented today. As a poly-victimization, multiracial and multicultural survivor, this bill will be a very big deterrent and detriment to the communities I represent.

Being a part of a marginalized community, we are already hesitant to seek medical attention when necessary. The poly-victimization, multiracial, and multicultural community may feel further alienated and fearful if this bill is enacted, as it could exacerbate existing mistrust in the police force, potentially hindering community cooperation and safety efforts.

Disproportionate medical care due to structural racism, implicit bias, and systemic barriers is something marginalized communities already have to face when seeking medical attention. If Senate Bill 25-273 allowed peace officers to acquire blood samples to be kept within 14 days, patients would now have to worry about if/when/and why their blood is being taken. Honestly, it's hard to pinpoint a certain event that I would have felt comfortable coming in presenting any form of harm that would warrant an officer to be called if this bill were in place. To me, retaining blood draws without the consent of the patient would be another silencer for the community that's already fearful of medical care and police presence.

As a woman who comes from these marginalized communities, I ask that you pause. Picture yourself being in a vulnerable position and having something else taken from you without your consent.

Thank you for the opportunity you've given me, members of the committee. Your consideration means a lot to **US**.