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## **H. 225 - An act relating to a statewide policy on the use of and training requirements for electronic control devices**

### **Testimony from Kristofor Medina**

#### **Senate Government Operations – Room 4**

Hello, my name is Kris Medina and I am a man that lives with Autism. Autism affects many parts of my daily functioning, especially my sensory system.

Autism makes it almost unbearable for me to come into physical contact with someone. Quite often if someone touches me unexpectedly, my sensory system goes into overload and I panic. For instance if an officer grabs my arm I might yell and pull away. In no way are you in danger, it is just the way my body responds to my tactile defensiveness.

Questioning people's intentions is paramount when using a deployment device. Take me for example, I am a non-violent man, I just live in a body that has major sensitivities to touch.

I understand and appreciate the challenges police face when interacting with people with disabilities. I urge you to only use Tasers when there are acts of aggression towards a police officer or others. Please reconsider the deployment standards around resistance. We with Autism and other Developmental Disabilities have various needs; please keep that at the forefront of your consideration.

I would like to thank-you for your dedication while serving the citizens of our communities.

Sincerely,  
Kris Medina