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Good afternoon Chair Barker, Vice-Chairs Barton and Krieger and members of the committee,

My name is Robert Schumacher, and I'm a student at Lane Community College as well as the Communications Director for LCC's Student Government. In addition, I am also a Peer Mentor at LCC, a member of Oregon Community College Student Association's Board of Directors, and lastly I'm the Chair of OCCSA's Communications Committee. With all these "hats," I hope you may understand the limited amount of time I have with the scope of what I am about to address. However, I strongly believe that this hearing on HB 4094; medical amnesty is worth my time to express how I feel about this proposed policy.

You see in my teen years, I had a really great friend who got addicted to Heroin. And one night he was hanging out with a group of friends who also used. My friend ended up overdosing, and the group of people he was with was so afraid of criminal prosecution they never called for emergency assistance.

This fear caused them to never report the overdose – something that could have saved my friend's life - and instead, my dear friend was left by the train tracks on soggy wood and cold heartless steel to live the last few moments of his life as if he were some one long forgotten.

I hope you can see why I'm taking my time to write you. I also hope you can see why this policy is something our great state, which still has some room for improvement, needs. While this policy doesn't directly address the concerns with narcotic overdoses and their impact on public health the statistics and stories intersect with those who experience alcohol poisoning.

I strongly encourage you to think of the worst case scenario and how this medical emergency amnesty will save lives. Just one life saved and this policy will have done us, our society, and our community's justice. Don't you agree?

Please help move this important conversation forward and pass **House Bill 4094**.

Thank you for your time

Robert Schumacher

Communications Director, Associated Students of Lane Community College (ASLCC)