

635 NE Dekum St, Portland, OR, 97211 | (503) 286-0477 | www.orstudents.org | @OregonStudents February  $18^{th}$ , 2014

Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Close and members of the committee.

My name is Amanda Moos. I am a student at Western Oregon University and I serve on the board of directors for the Oregon Student Association. Thank you for hearing me today.

I am here today to express to you why HB 4094 is so important to me. I attended Roosevelt high school which is in the north end of Portland. There was a large drinking culture at this school. I recall several events where I attended a house party, and someone was too intoxicated. Folks were aware of the fact that they were "too messed up" but failed to seek medical assistance because there was a house full of minors. I know that there is a grey area here. A house full of 16 year olds binge drinking is obviously a totally separate issue and something that should never be encouraged. I would like to make it clear that this bill is not asking for situations like this to be overlooked.

All this bill asks is for amnesty to the person that has the courage to recognize the symptoms of alcohol poisoning. As a former PPS student I was trained to recognize and know what alcohol poisoning looks like. I'm assuming most students in the state of Oregon also have at the least an idea of signs and symptoms of alcohol poisoning as well. So I ask you this. Why are there many losses to alcohol poisoning? Fear. The young people of Oregon fear the repercussions of underage drinking (as they should). However, granting medical amnesty to a person suffering would alleviate the stress. As well as the person reporting. I hold a vivid memory in my head. I went with an old friend of mine to a party during my Sophomore year of high school. When I walked through the door the first thing I saw was a person who appeared to be sleeping to my left. Folks were drawing on him, slapping him, and making jokes about his state. From the moment I saw this person I knew he was not alright. I immediately say next to him and put my fingers to his neck to check his pulse. I felt that it was slow and his breathing was abnormal so I started to look for the owner of the house; the person that threw the part or anyone who may know this person. After roughly an hour of looking for someone to help, I decided to rally up my friends and leave. When I stepped outside I called 911.



635 NE Dekum St, Portland, OR, 97211 | (503) 286-0477 | www.orstudents.org | @OregonStudents

Because I was underage and this was my first situation like this I did not provide them with any of my personal information. I simply said that there was a person

I was worried about at this address and then I left. Later that night a friend called me from the basement of that house and told me that everyone was hiding because something serious was happening upstairs. The cops had showed up and the kid passed out on the couch was being treated by EMT's. The person who lived in the house suffered criminal charges (as they should have) and so did the person who had alcohol poisoning. I believe that had someone felt confident calling for help, that his condition would have been far less crucial. Had I been the legal age, or had there been a bill like HB 4094 in place, I would have stayed to see that he got the proper care and that he made it out of the situation rather than just calling the cops anonymously then leaving.

Thank you for your time

## Amanda Moos

Director of State and Federal Affairs, Associated Students of Southern Oregon University Board of Directors, Oregon Student Association