



February 3, 2016

Representative Knute Buehler
900 Court St. NE H-389
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: City of Bend Support for House Bill 4124

Dear Representative Buehler:

555 NE 15TH STREET
PO BOX 118
BEND, OR 97701
[541] 322-2960 TEL
[541] 312-1934 FAX
WWW.CI.BEND.OR.US

Chief Langston and I wanted to let you know we at the Bend Police Department and Bend Fire and Rescue support the use of Naloxone for the prevention of deaths and serious impairment. The research shows nationally since 2001, deaths related to opioid use have dramatically increased, which is consistent with what we have seen in Central Oregon. Saving lives and preventing serious impairment falls into the mission of our organization, protecting the citizens of Bend.

JIM CLINTON
Mayor

SALLY RUSSELL
Mayor Pro Tem

VICTOR CHUDOWSKY
City Councilor

DOUG KNIGHT
City Councilor

NATHAN BOODIE
City Councilor

CASEY ROATS
City Councilor

BARB CAMPBELL
City Councilor


ERIC KING
City Manager

Most of our officers are mobile 24 hours a day and there is a high likelihood we will be close to the location of an overdose if it occurs. Having officers outfitted with Naloxone provides a person in distress extra time if they have an unfortunate situation where they overdose on an opioid. We have vetted the use of Naloxone through the City of Bend Fire and Rescue, along with other law enforcement agencies that regularly use Naloxone. We have not seen any negative consequences through its use by officers within the Bend Police Department.


Based on our experiences, we strongly support your effort to improve access to Naloxone to other trained individuals to help ensure they can treat overdoses and save lives.

We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to Representatives Buehler, Senator Steiner Hayward, Representatives Williamson, Parrish and also Representatives Davis, Fagan, and Greenlick for putting forth this bill.

Sincerely,



Jim Porter
Chief of Police



Larry Langston
Fire Chief