

I write with a somewhat unique perspective; I met Taylor while performing the duties of my job as a police officer.

I have worked in law enforcement in Oregon for a number of years in both Clackamas and Washington Counties, primarily as a full-time DUI Investigator. I am also a certified Drug Recognition Expert and met Taylor when I was asked to administer an evaluation on him in 2015.

We only spent 90 or so minutes together, but Taylor made a big impression on me. He was bright, engaging and had a great sense of humor. You could tell he was a good and kind person but was suffering from addiction. I was saddened to hear of his death because I knew he was the kind of person who would be a huge success in life - if he could just get past his addiction.

His story, sadly, is not unique. There are thousands of addicts in Oregon that are vulnerable to drug dealers and manufacturers and their unethical practices and desire to squeeze money out of addicts - no matter how dangerous the consequences.

Taylor's Law has the potential to help deter the sale of illegal drugs and hopefully, will prevent the deaths of others by holding drug dealers accountable when someone dies from an overdose.

Oregon has a terrible drug crisis and I ask that you help enact this law. We need to do anything and everything we can to save the lives of Oregonians that are vulnerable to drug dealers.

James Abeles