

Chairs Lieber and Kropf, members of the Joint Interim Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response,

I am writing to oppose you. As someone who is preparing to train to become a cop, and eventually a detective, an independent consultant for the FBI, I can tell you right now that decriminalizing drugs has done nothing but bogged the police departments down. It is basic human psychology. If you give humans access to something, they will abuse it more.

Never mind the fact that the average citizen thinks that decriminalizing drugs makes them legal, when in fact, it does not. It just reduces punishment.

This bill was voted in and you all promised hospital beds for these addicts. When in reality, no hospitals or facilities were funded and built -you guys over burdened our pre-existing hospital beds in the middle of a pandemic crisis i.e. COVID-19. This was sincerely a bad decision.

Ask any cop. They are not pleased with the decriminalizing of drugs, and the cops would prefer to be arresting them.

Decriminalizing drugs has increased Drug usage - and has also contributed to homelessness. We have watched the homeless epidemic rise for the last 3 to 4 years straight. We have homeless camps as far as McMinnville. Many of these people are drug addicts, who lost their homes.

In conclusion, the decriminalizing of drugs has contributed to an increase of drug usage and addiction. As was stated previously, human nature is to abuse that which they have easy access to. You are over burdening hospitals, overburdening police , and frankly, taking Oregon down a very dark road. I find it comical that you would mention how decriminalizing drugs could help police, when in fact, it does not, and everyone who voted for decriminalizing drugs, also voted to defund police. I think you can do the math.

Sincerely,  
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