

Dear Legislators,

I am writing as a concerned citizen of Portland and as a family member of a person who has lived on the streets. Measure 110 has been a disaster. The houseless population has only grown and more people are falling into addiction. It has brought the cartels to our doorstep and increased sex trafficking. These things go hand in hand, it is naive to think that law enforcement has no place helping addicted individuals recover. When my family member was living on the streets his arrests were our families only means of knowing where he was and it kept him alive. Although he is not fully recovered to this day, his time in jail held him accountable for the crimes he committed while addicted and he had to face his lifestyle and change. Now he is in stable housing and recovery programs and on his way to becoming who he always had the potential to be. Letting people live in danger, addiction and filth is not compassionate. People are dying from these naive policies.

Hire more police. Stop releasing drug dealers. Let law enforcement do their jobs and confiscate illegal drugs make a task force to fight cartels and traffickers. Fund residential mental health hospitals. Clean up this mess.

Sincerely,
Clare Szydowski