

I am writing to strongly encourage the repeal of BM 110.

The voters were misled into voting for this measure. The rhetoric suggested that individuals suffering from substance abuse need programs rather than prison time. The reality is that both can and should exist, in order to make our homes safe for our families.

As a 20+ year resident of Portland and mother of 2 children, I am regularly alarmed by what my children are forced to confront on the streets of our city. My son is a freshman at Lincoln High School and is regularly witness to individuals that are clearly struggling with substance abuse issues. Just yesterday, he was confronted by someone who was threatening others with a knife during his lunch break. This is now a regular occurrence. He reports that it is "ok because he's with a group of 10 other kids. So, don't worry mom, if we had to attack him we could and I think we would win." This is a complete and total failure on the part of our city to keep our children safe.

The taxes are absolutely out of control (2nd only to NYC, with the highest bracket not kicking in to over \$20MM income), yet the services are abysmal. A tax credit is offered to businesses signing new leases, but no one wants to drive (or walk for that matter) downtown bc there is break in after break in after break in. There is absolutely no view that the city is working to keep our citizens safe let alone protect our personal property. The break ins and crime have skyrocketed since the passage of BM 110.

Do you have any sense of responsibility for the citizens of this city? It's absolutely baffling. Anyone working for a private company would have been fired years ago. I honestly wonder what everyone tells themselves to justify this disgusting state of affairs. I can promise you, as soon as my son graduates, we are out of this city. I just hope we are not upside down on our mortgage by then bc it's looking more and more like downtown Detroit every day.

The step to correcting this current state of affairs is repealing this ballot measure ASAP. We are forced to be taxed more and more to support the increased number of individuals that are pouring into our city from around the country. The individuals making over \$125K a year cannot pay for all of this themselves. This is becoming clear to an increasing number of residents and businesses every day, so the city is surely starting to see their taxbase erode. It will only continue unless you take steps to correct the situation. You cannot bury your head and continue in the status quo and look to residents to raise more tax revenue to support this failed measure and all of the crime and destruction that comes with it. BM 110 was an ill conceived law and it needs to be repealed immediately for the safety of our residents and children.

Best regards,
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