



ALEX CUYLER

Intergovernmental Relations Manager

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DATE: January 25, 2023
TO: House Committee on Behavior Health and Health Care
RE: HB 2451, relating to controlled substances.

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice-Chair Goodwin, and Members of the Committee:

Lane County has reviewed HB 2451, a measure that would ensure fentanyl testing strips are not considered drug paraphernalia.

Lane County's Public Health Division does purchase and distribute fentanyl testing strips currently and this bill is critical to ensuring we can continue that activity.

Fentanyl test strips are used by law enforcement obviously, but we have also become aware of additional access being made in private establishments like bars, where drug users may also utilize them.

We find that this kind of access is appropriate given the dangerousness of this drug. A fentanyl test strip can literally be a life saving device.

Having stated this, we do recommend an additional amendment to this measure that would provide immunity provisions provided around the distribution, and failure of distributions, to the accessibility of fentanyl test strips by both public and private entities. Entities that provide test strips in public places should not have to defend themselves against litigation should an overdose death occur. We urge the Committee to add such language into HB 2451.

ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED BY ALEX CUYLER, LANE COUNTY
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS MANAGER