

Submitter: Sonja Grove

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business

Measure: HB2013

I am the mother of a 53 year old, who died of alcohol related causes. When I read this bill, I think of my son, who regularly bought a 24 pack of Beer at Walgreens for \$14.99. Most cannot understand the veracity of this disease and the lack of motivation to drink less. I question the state of Oregon (and the Legislature) for their support of alcohol, which is a carcinogen and a killer, I can testify to that. It appears that this bill is dedicated to business and revenue, at a high cost for those who abuse alcohol. Raising the price of alcohol is an evidence based practice to prevent and control alcohol use and purchasing - the opposite of this Bill's intent. New Mexico has the highest deaths due to alcohol related causes in the United States. They have just passed a five cent per drink tax on alcohol. I hope this committee and Behavioral Health can find a way to alter Oregon's embarrassing and tragic record for preventing Alcoholism deaths and suffering. I haven't observed indications that your committee and the legislature to balance public health with revenue production. I am monitoring your work, and will continue to share your votes with so many who need your compassion.