

Submitter: Joe Hovey

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4036

I fully support stronger / stricter penalties for drug use in open spaces; in addition to penalties for drug dealers. As proposed by the Dems in HB4402, they are calling for a Class C Misdemeanor. I say we need it to be stronger; at the very least Class A. We need to be thinking how we then get people into treatment and not into jail. I don't see this as a return to the "war on drugs". We need to rethink our "drug courts" and how they fit into our statewide judicial system. They are an important tool for getting people into services for addiction. Jail Time vs Addiction Treatment; users choose. And they need to complete the program in order for them to move forward. We need this type of thinking from all legislators.