

Submitter: Rich Rohde

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4002

To: Joint Committee on Addiction and Community Safety Response

I am opposed to any criminalization of addiction. Jails and criminal records inflict severe harm and do nothing to help folks find solutions for their addictions.

I have seen first hand how a criminal record ruins lives. The funding of much needed addiction and mental health emergency services in the bill is excellent.

But even criminalization lite will not work and actually harm to many.

We voted in Oregon to support another way using access to services and not jail as the way forward. We much continue that path.

If we stop the misdemeanor part of the bill we can then be able to stop any ballot measure that would have us use the terribly wrong war on drugs approach.

Please pass this bill SB4002 without the misdemeanor approach.