

Submitter: Lynne Richardson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4002

Possession of hard drugs like fentanyl, meth, and heroin should be reclassified as a Class A misdemeanor, not the lowest level Class C misdemeanor as is currently being proposed.

A Class C misdemeanor carries the threat of 30 days in jail. 30 days is neither a strong enough deterrent nor long enough time to help someone get off of judgment-altering drugs like fentanyl.

A Class A misdemeanor provides the justice system with the most robust set of consequences and rewards to steer more people into treatment, off deadly drugs, and away from jail.

Oregon needs a comprehensive fix to Measure 110 with enhanced funding for prevention, treatment, and recovery and tougher penalties for drug dealing.