

Submitter: Frank Blackston

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4036

I support HB 4036. The intent of M110 is good but it was implemented poorly and needs a fix.

1) Public use of drugs needs to be criminalized with a misdemeanor A. public drug use is negatively impacting livability and discouraging investments in our community- this reduced investment has negative impact on our economies

2) Drug treatment must be a mandatory alternative to jail – the voluntary approach under Measure 110 has failed. I know from personal experience that people in the throes of addiction are not in the right state to make the choice to pursue treatment. They need a push, not simply an invitation.

3) Lawmakers should listen to Oregon law enforcement who support a Class A misdemeanor - we need appropriate guardrails around this program that move addicts into treatment and also help sustain neighborhood safety and livability.

Thank you.