

Submitter: M H

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4036

I have been a member of ALAnon for over 30 years and have first hand knowledge of loved ones that have been addicted to drugs and/or alcohol.

It is imperative that they feel the consequences of their choices in order to make the decision ON THEIR OWN to seek help to stop. any soft approach like lowering laws is just ENABLING the user.

Enabling makes it easier to continue using an addictive product. This is common knowledge for those that treat addiction or have sought help for themselves or others.

The choice of treatment or jail sounds noble, but more times than not those who are forced to get treatment relapse after a short time or when the required term is up.

Those who study how to make these laws should talk extensively to ADDICTS that have been successfully in recovery for 5 or more years. They are the ones that will tell you that

having to face the most negative of consequences is they they made a decision to seriously quit. Those who choose a 12 step program find that not only does it teach how to quit, but more importantly, it teaches and supports how to live clean and sober.