

Submitter: Michael Boyles
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB1553

As a Portland resident and user of public transit, I support SB 1553-1 amendments to make drug use on the public transportation system a misdemeanor. The keys to a successful public transit system that people want to use for their daily travel needs are to ensure its reliability, convenience, speed, and, perhaps most importantly of all, its safety. While I do not support efforts to repeal Measure 110 in its entirety, its passage in 2020 laid bare many loopholes and structural inadequacies of the state's public safety and health systems that warrant fixing, and ensuring that public drug use does not become a public nuisance or health and safety issue for people simply trying to go to work, complete errands, and visit friends and family by giving law enforcement the tools to arrest such behavior is an easy fix the Legislative Assembly can enact this winter. Please adopt the -1 amendment language and refer this bill favorably to the Senate floor.