

Submitter: Kelly Sloop

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services

Measure: SB1547

Dear committee members,

I support SB1547. Our youth need access to immediate treatment for substance use disorder. Our state currently doesn't have a viable treatment pathway. Our youth and young adults are in a mental health crisis and turn to substances to manage their anxiety/depression.

I've listened to numerous webinars and read various studies which reveal shocking and disturbing numbers of youth who are using cannabis which contain high levels of THC. The marijuana today is highly addictive, causes psychosis, and is the gateway drug to more deadly drugs and also high risk behaviors.

This bill allows parents to authorize treatment for their child. This is needed, Human brains go "offline" from puberty to age 25-26 years old, in order to fine tune the frontal lobe. During this time, youth and young adults can not understand long term consequences and are vulnerable to risky behavior.

Please pass SB1547-our youth need access to immediate treatment for substance use.

Thank you,  
Kelly Sloop