

Submitter: Pam Pearce

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General
Government, and Veterans

Measure: HB4093

As a person in recovery, an advocate of prevention education, and a founder of Oregon's first recovery high school, I believe that substances are not the enemy, but not having the information and education to make informed decisions and protect ourselves is. Substances are harming Oregonians in record numbers, and my support of HB 4093 is acknowledging Oregon's current reality and challenges and the need for things to change in support of prioritizing the health and wellness of our communities.

Having a guaranteed presence of Public Health expertise on the OLCC Board of Commissioners is one of the best ways to ensure that this agency is doing everything it can to help support, protect, and encourage a prevention mindset in policy considerations surrounding Oregonians but particularly minors with the sale of alcohol and cannabis products.

HB 4093 is about putting guardrails in place to keep people safe in a state where the statistics are so poor concerning the numbers of substance use concerns and lack of treatment services and options for the people of Oregon, especially our children.

Please consider HB 4093. Invest in putting the guardrails in place to support moving our state in the right direction; invest in hope – the future depends on it.