

MMC

Metropolitan Mayors' Consortium

Mayor Lacey Beaty
City of Beaverton

Mayor Brian Hodson
City of Canby

Mayor Jeffrey Dalin
City of Cornelius

Mayor Keith Jehnke
City of Durham

Mayor Keith Kudrna
City of Fairview

Mayor Malynnda Wenzl
City of Forest Grove

Mayor Michael Milch
City of Gladstone

Mayor Travis Stovall
City of Gresham

Mayor Tom Ellis
City of Happy Valley

Mayor Steve Callaway
City of Hillsboro

Mayor Jaimie Fender
City of King City

Mayor Joe Buck
City of Lake Oswego

Mayor Michelle Montross
City of Maywood Park

Mayor Lisa Batey
City of Milwaukie

Mayor Teri Lenahan
City of North Plains

Mayor Denyse McGriff
City of Oregon City

Mayor Ted Wheeler
City of Portland

Mayor Tim Rosener
City of Sherwood

Mayor Heidi Lueb
City of Tigard

Mayor Randy Lauer
City of Troutdale

Mayor Frank Bubenik
City of Tualatin

Mayor Anne McEnery-Ogle
City of Vancouver (ex officio)

Mayor Rory Bialostosky
City of West Linn

Mayor Julie Fitzgerald
City of Wilsonville

Mayor John Miner
City of Wood Village

February 25, 2024

Chair Lieber
Vice-Chair Kropf
Joint Committee on Addiction and Community Safety Response
Oregon State Legislature
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for HB 4002 with the -24 Amendment

Dear Chair Lieber, Vice-Chair Kropf, and Members of the Committee,

The Metropolitan Mayors' Consortium represents the mayors of twenty-four cities in the Portland Metro Area, collectively home to over 1.7 million Oregonians. We are writing to express our support for House Bill 4002 with the -24 amendment, aimed at addressing the deeply rooted addiction crisis in our local communities.

Drug-related crime, overdose deaths, and the related public health crisis has shaken our communities. We believe that penalties, coupled with increased access to treatment and rehabilitation services, are the most effective way to address the present crisis. This approach will reduce the acceptance of fentanyl use, protect vulnerable populations from exploitation, and ultimately improve public safety and health outcomes for all.

This approach will not work without sufficient behavior health and treatment resources. HB 4002 with the -24 amendment would allow us to shift our approach to a multifaceted approach that weaves sanctions with treatment to provide the support that those in crisis need. The approach embodied in HB 4002 (-24) moves Oregon towards a public health methodology, rather than punitive or non-interventive approaches. This will lead to better outcomes and create a safer, healthier, and more compassionate community for all.

The MMC strongly urges your support for House Bill 4002 with the -24 amendment.

Sincerely,

The Metropolitan Mayors' Consortium