

Submitter: Michael Hall

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4002

I oppose in part; HB 4002 has already been done in the past in practice. Just keep studying the issue and don't do anything to fix the problem. Measure 110 was the magic pill that was supposed to fix the issue by letting people sell drugs on street corners. Money saved by not incarcerating these people was supposed to be used to treat addiction. It NEVER happened. Crime has run rampant and the filth and garbage that has spread throughout all major metropolitan areas in Oregon is almost indescribable. Large areas of Portland look like a third world country without trash service and dealers everywhere. All of this within a state that claims to be the most environmentally friendly, yet can't even keep trash off the street or the hillsides along Oregon's highways. Oregon has become a haven for addicts, many of which are among the homeless population and now cover almost every square inch of sidewalk and side street in Portland. HB 4002 is only a way to get more money into the hands of departments that are incapable of solving the problem. If you want to know how to solve the problem, talk to the people who have recovered and left the streets. They will tell you that throwing money at the problem will do nothing. HB 4002 does nothing to change what federal laws already exist, which makes all of these narcotics regardless of quantity illegal. I suppose that the federal government will have to come in and take over the streets of Portland to enforce laws that the State is too lenient on.