

Submitter: Miles von Bergen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4002

To whom it may concern,

I grew up in Portland, attended Lincoln HS. I have worked in the CBD of Portland since 2007. 13 years in Fox Tower, 2 years in old town on 4th and Couch and two years in the Pearl on 11th and Glisan.

This whole city is broken. Where once you could walk around the city during the day or night. It is now a roll of the dice. The saturation of drug use in the city is destroying it. Open drug use is the symptom of the bigger problem we face.

I am all for helping those in need. But we cannot continue to have this be a free for all. We need equal amounts of compassion and accountability. For those who want help we need to have avenues to help, but for those who do not and wish to continue a life of drugs, crime and decay there needs to be accountability and structure.

Even my bleeding heart liberal friends are at wits end.

The first step to recovery is to pass HB 4002. Why it may not be a perfect solution it show the country that we are at least addressing our problem. Outside investment has halted to our city because of how we are viewed. It's a hard "NO" from most.

To conclude its help for those who want it and accountability and punishment for those who don't.