

Submitter: Darin Gardner

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4002

I am writing to urge you to make changes to Ballot Measure 110 and reclassify hard drugs as a Class A misdemeanor - not a Class C. Easy access to lethal drugs like fentanyl and meth, without adequate consequences and incentives to steer people into mandatory drug treatment, is making Oregon's drug addiction and overdose crisis worse – not better.

In addition to tougher penalties for drug dealers and giving cities the tools to regulate public drug use more strictly, the legislature should also make possession and use of hard drugs a crime again. Law enforcement must have the tools to incentivize people to seek and accept treatment. The 100% voluntary approach with worthless \$40 dollar tickets and rarely used drug hotlines, isn't working.

Let's keep what is working with Measure 110, like dedicated funding for treatment, and fix what is not working. Please take action.

Thank you.

Darin Gardner