

Submitter: Bonnie Billings

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4002

I have only lived in Portland for six years. I'm a widow and I came to be near my grandchildren. I have watched this beautiful city disintegrate. It is not all due to homes addicts, but once the thieves realized they could come here and blend in, it became chaos. I live by myself in a condo on Northwest. Our garage has been broken into at least 12 times. The thieves know the police will never come. My HOA dues have almost doubled trying to keep them out and replacing everything they break. Plus, our insurance doubled in price.

I won't walk alone at night in my neighborhood and there are days when I'm not sure I should be walking in the daytime. I watch people defecate in the middle of the sidewalk, strip off their clothes, scream endlessly and come towards me menacingly. Plus the people that are passed out on the sidewalk with tinfoil next to them. Should I check to see if they're still breathing? I'm afraid to touch them because they might grab me.

Please, please, please try to do something about the drug problem. It won't stop it, but it might make it better. I'm almost 70 years old. I'd like to see the old Portland before I'm too old to walk and ride my bike.