

Submitter: Paul Mortimer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4002

To the committee,

I am writing to vehemently urge you to re-criminalize drug possession. As someone who has watched one family member lose his job, wife and children to meth and watched another drink herself to death, as someone who has had a naked addict smash his car window with a rock and found hypodermic needles in his yard and on his front porch, and as someone who reads that fewer than 100 people have sought treatment under the terms of M110, I can attest that simply making treatment available to people with substance use disorders does not work. People must be compelled to undertake treatment because drugs take over their lives and judgment. Offering people with SUDs treatment without compelling them to take it is not only ineffective, it is cruel and inhumane and only prolongs their suffering and the suffering of those around them.

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