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On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4002

Our son died of a fentanyl death just 5 months ago in Jackson County. He was diagnosed with severe mental illness when he was 17. Drugs in the very end caused his heart to stop beating, but it was the system that slowly failed and killed him.

He had several misdemeanors for very minor violations (trespassing, littering, etc..) When in jail he was not directed to treatment -- even though the root of his problem was a severe mental illness.

We need to:

Restore accountability by incorporating pathways to treatment as part of the criminal process

Expand access to local dual-diagnosis drug and mental health treatment

Recriminalize hard drugs

Fund treatment for early intervention of psychosis so more young people with brain disorders get help soon and don't end up homeless and then handed drugs.