

Submitter: Dean Hamper

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4002

Dear Legislators,

As a former addictions counselor (CADCI) who worked primarily with criminal meth addicts, I support the move to re-criminalize hard drug use. I have the experience of many years of personal drug use, but turned my life around due to the love of a child. My Associates is Criminal Justice, and by Baccalaureate is a double minor pairing Criminal Justice with Health and Wellness (it included addictions studies). In leading education groups to probation/parole clients, I imparted the behavior=consequence philosophy within the graduated sanctions policy of Supervising Agencies.

The brain changes that occur with drug use inhibit the maturation process. Instant gratification overrules delayed gratification, resulting in misplaced priorities. Peer pressure, social media 'influencers', and 'activists' provide direction for those with 'too much time on their hands'. The result; a perfect storm for those with an Agenda. Those who seek 'power by any means necessary' care not that their foot soldiers - our children and grandchildren - are sacrificed to satisfy their goals.

Rampant drug use HAS NEVER WORKED; it never will work. Nazi Germany is a prime example of this. We must be responsible. Behavior=consequence.