

Submitter: Glen Rairden

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4002

I am in full support of HB 4002! While we're at it, repeal 110. I have seen first hand the chaos and destruction that 110 has had on the community while doing nothing to help the addicted but instead enables them to continue their self destructive behaviors. When there are no consequences to actions we become a lawless and dangerous society. I've seen this as a police officer as well as running a security team for Unity Center for Behavioral Health. I would ask the homeless and addicted why they came to Portland. The answer was always due to the permission to camp in the city and no penalties for drug use. Like the Underground Railroad but without the honorable intentions, the pipeline of info on Portland's lax policies spread like wildfire across the nation. I interacted with individuals from Hawaii, NY, Chicago, Los Angeles, New Mexico and more. The results of this is a once safe and beautiful mid sized city is now a broken and dangerous shell of itself. Businesses and people are fleeing taking their tax money with them. Which means to fund these awful policies, city "leaders" will have to fleece the remaining citizenry by taxing them more. Parents can no longer take their children to city parks for fear of getting accosted by a mentally ill homeless person or stuck with a dirty needle. I was on a call where a young child on a playground found a colored used condom and tried blowing it up thinking it was a balloon. Mom was hysterical and kid was in for several months of testing. No child deserves that. My wife shut her business down on 23rd because the lack of people and influx of violent homeless people shoplifting was too much. Like so many downtown businesses she boarded up and closed shop. Who goes downtown now? It was a ghost town around Christmas. People are tired. They have grown weary of the lawlessness and dangers of the city. Pass this bill and force the city to open their eyes and take a good long look at the failures of Portland. You can choose to turn a blind eye and let the city fester and eventually die or you can wake up and begin the process of restoring law and order, bring new business in, and give the taxpayers what they deserve, a city to safely raise a family and live their lives without fear.