

Submitter: Thad Collins

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4002

Please pass HB 4002.

A reminder that we elect politicians like you to get things done.

It's a shared and obvious expectation we put Oregon first.

At this time we don't need more committees to study problems and get bogged down in analysis paralysis. More "non-profit-non-result" groups are not required either.

Results matter.

I am writing to urge you to make immediate changes to the Ballot Measure 110 fiasco and reclassify hard drugs as a Class A misdemeanor - not a Class C. The Class C option is quarter measure and is an easily recognized "kid gloves" cop out. Easy access to lethal drugs like fentanyl and meth, without strong consequences, has made Oregon's drug addiction, crime and overdose crisis much worse – not better. Within the country, Portland and Oregon have become a magnet for destructive behaviors for all the wrong reasons. We are an excellent location for cartels however.

We need much tougher and enforced penalties for drug dealers. (suggestion: 10 years 1st offence, 20 yrs. for 2nd and death penalty for a third) Incentivize addicts financially for turning in dealers. Give cities the tools and police to regulate public drug use more strictly. This legislature needs to make possession and use of hard drugs a real crime again. Law enforcement must have the tools to force people to seek and accept treatment. We have to admit that the 100% voluntary approach with uncollected tickets and rarely used drug hotlines, is costly comedy at best.

Please look at completely dumping Measure 110, because it appears not much is working. We (you, me and the voters) made a poor decision or stood by and allowed it on the ballot. Lesson learned. Oregon's unique progressive approach failed on this one. Now we have effectively destroyed a city, some towns, a state and more importantly...several families and lives. Within the country, Portland and Oregon have become a dumping ground for all the wrong reasons. The outlook for a quality of life for our kids and grandkids gets harder to see by the day.

We have way too many open beds in prisons and understaffed convict work crews in the parks, woods, picking up trash, cleaning up graffiti and conducting drug camp sweeps. Let's fund the police, additional only proven effective mental health inpatient

facilities and a future for our kids.
Please take immediate action and pass HB 4002.
We depend on you.

Thank you.
Thad Collins
Beaverton