

Submitter: Emily Olivia Tyler

On Behalf Of: Treatment beds not jail beds

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4002

I am a constituent who is extremely disappointed to see state leaders pursue harmful criminalization policies.

I have first hand experience w/drug addiction & criminalization. My mother served a three year sentence the coffee creek correctional facility for distribution of heroin. She was an addict selling heroin to do heroin, on and off the streets, etc... She overdosed & died within weeks of release.

Last year my little brother overdosed on fentanyl and died. He tried to get help to no avail. It's widely known the public programs are overcrowded and underfunded. There are a multitude of cards stacked against at low income addicts, how can they brake free of the cycle? Why isn't this seen as a health care issue rather than a criminal issue?

Why isn't action being taken to increase access to treatment services and housing for Oregonians?

I strongly oppose HB 4002 for failing to consider the Oregonians most at-risk of over-policing and government harm: Black and brown people, Indigenous Oregonians, low-income Oregonians, and rural Oregonians.

Thank you for your time & service,

Emily Olivia Tyler