

Submitter: William O Reynolds  
On Behalf Of: Treatment beds not jail beds  
Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response  
Measure: HB4002

"I am furious of the greedy corporate for profit jail & prisons locking up any more people for drug use when you allow "State Certified Doctors" to authorize Covid shots that killed millions! Furthermore, on a daily basis they authorize medications that do more harm than good, you should be removed from your positions for allowing such a pharmaceutical genocide to happen! Doctor don't cure, they treat symptoms! Only evil imbeciles stand with this measure! I am a constituent who is amazed ant seeing the idiocy running our state offices & to see state leaders aggressively pursue harmful criminalization policies instead of spending millions on research that you SHOULD ALREADY POSSESS if you have done your jobs for the last 30+ years! You would rather spend a billion pumping up the for-profit jail & prisons all the while retired judges make bank contracting themselves out as anger management & parole services! Instead of spend a fraction on helping people to find services and housing for Oregonians.

Just like the hundreds of Oregonians who submitted testimony earlier this month against harmful criminalization proposals, including HB 4002 and HB 4036, I DEMAND lawmakers to follow the evidence and the data THAT YOU SHOULD ALREADY HAVE AT ZERO EXPENSIVE FROM TAXPAYERS: decades of the failed war on drugs tell us that sending people to for-profit jail for having an addiction only ruins lives and make people in favor of this Bill & their lobbying hypocrites to get super rich! Is there no stopping the idiocy?! Why don't you make police accountable for their violent actions instead of promoting them?!!!

I've opposed HB 4002 from the start but I'm particularly frustrated by the -24 amendment, including the special interests behind it.

When I read that lawmakers invited prosecutors and law enforcement into closed door meetings to amend HB 4002, I knew the result would be harmful to the people left out of those "negotiations," including people with and communities with lived experience of disparities in the criminal justice system, the behavioral health system, and housing systems. Organizations representing Black and brown communities were shut out of the room.

HB 4002 -24 embraces a dangerous and damaging criminalization approach at the expense of the safety, health, and well-being of ALL ethnic communities. I strongly oppose HB 4002 for failing to consider the Oregonians most at-risk of over-policing and government harm: people, ALL Oregonians, low-income Oregonians, and rural Oregonians.

HB 4002 -24 also falls short of investing in Oregon's woefully under resourced mental health and drug addiction treatment services. The status quo of providing just 50% of the capacity necessary to meet the substance use disorder services needed is unacceptable. People are desperate for treatment services. That's punishment enough - putting them in jail doesn't help anyone. STRONGER INCENTIVES TO FINISH THE PROGRAM, IF OUR STATE CAN GIVE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS POCKETS FULL OF CASH AND CRIMINAL IMMUNITY, then they can afford to take care of their own FIRST!

We must do better. And we must do better than HB 4002 -24

At the end of the day, addiction is a health issue. Not a crime. The addiction crisis demands action, but HB 4002 -24 does more harm than good. I urge you to press the lawmakers behind HB 4002 to do better and consider the harm this legislation will unleash upon ALL Oregonians, and people struggling with addiction."