

I am writing in support of SB 1573, Prohibition of syringe service programs from operating a mobile or temporary location within 2,000 feet of a school or licensed childcare facility. These activities cannot rationally or honestly be permissible near children.

There is no rationale for these needle dumps to occur anywhere near children. As residents of a neighborhood with a PPP designated weekly needle, pipe and foil dump, we have witnessed time and again the instability and deeply criminal activity they attract. And that says nothing of the filth and danger these create, instantaneously. The second to last time I witnessed a PPP needle drop at NW 19th and Burnside, an open air drug market sprung up immediately. As well, I counted three cars without license plates pull up, get their needles and drive off, and the garbage left behind was third world. The last PPP needle drop I witnessed was under the fentanyl corridor, aka I-405, at the border of the NW district and the pearl. A man in his twenties had received his drug equipment, walked less than 20 yards after receiving his drug supplies before using his drugs. He was passed out and nonresponsive. I asked a PPP member if they had called 911 and the member told me that wasn't his job or his business.

I am struggling to understand why we would need this legislation, why an organization would ever concentrate this instability near children, but this is Portland. And we seem to deny science and facts in very similar ways as the current federal administration:

Please support this addition to livability and safety in the neighborhoods Portlanders from all walks of life are trying to help recover and invest in. Things do not need to be so hard.