

Submitter: Kathryn Notson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Early Childhood and Behavioral Health

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1573

Drug paraphernalia distribution PROHIBITION needs to include church parking lots, HUD low income apartments/houses (e.g., Bud Clark Commons, The St. Francis Apts., etc.), public libraries (Multnomah County Central Library), public parks (South Park Blocks, Eastbank Esplanade, Peninsula Crossing Trail, public bicycle paths, etc.), & public transit areas (including Greyhound Bus & Amtrak station areas), & it needs to be ILLEGAL to store drug paraphernalia in Public Storage units, too. ALL drug paraphernalia should be considered CONTRABAND if it is stored in Public Storage units. ALL drug paraphernalia distribution (including drug pipes, straws, etc. used to smoke methamphetamines & fentanyl, etc.) should be included in this bill, not just syringes. Only medical providers should be allowed to give syringes their patients directly. Syringes should NOT be distributed to homeless drug addicts on public streets.

Multnomah County Health Dept.'s Needle Exchange Program distributes syringes from the Montavilla United Methodist Church parking lot, 232 SE 80th Ave. from a MC white van at night without the church's knowledge or consent since January 2025. The MCHD Needle Exchange Program previously distributed syringes from the St. Peter & St. Paul Episcopal Church parking lot, 247 SE 82nd Ave. before January 2025. This location is directly across the street from the Multnomah County Housing Services Dept. Oak St. Village homeless shelter, 333 SE 82nd Ave., which is south of Vestal Elementary School. One woman who lived at 8126 SE Pine St., directly behind the Oak St. Village had homeless drug addicts publicly consuming controlled substances on her front porch BEFORE the Oak St. Village homeless shelter was opened. She has since sold that house & moved away. Yes, drug paraphernalia distribution draws homeless drug addicts to the Montavilla neighborhood. Multnomah County Health Dept. funds Outside In, 1239 SW Main St., & Portland Street Medicine, too.

Outside In tells homeless drug addicts to walk 3 blocks away from their location to publicly consume controlled substances after they give them drug paraphernalia. The homeless drug addicts ended up across the street from The Portland Clinic, 800 SW 13th Ave., along I-405, & outside Meals on Wheels Elm Court Center, 1032 SW Main St. The Portland Clinic & Meals on Wheels removed their staff from these locations for SAFETY reasons due to drug dealing occurring AFTER homeless drug addicts were given drug paraphernalia & then were publicly consuming controlled substances. Meals on Wheels left Elm Court Center 5/31/2025. This is part of The St. Francis Apts., 1024 SW Main St., which is a HUD LIHTC apt. building. The

Northwest Academy occupies 2 buildings on SW Main St. diagonally across the street to the southeast from Outside In.

Portland Street Medicine collaborates with Portland People's Outreach Project, which is an anarchist "anti-fascist" "mutual aid" non-profit with ties to a similar group in Seattle, WA. Both of these organizations distribute drug pipes, straws, etc. in addition to syringes to homeless drug addicts. They were distributing drug paraphernalia on NW 19th Ave. at NW Couch St. on Friday nights in a school zone prior to KPTV Fox 12 reporting on it 3 times. (It's now anonymous.) St. Mary's Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church has an academy at 110 NW 17th Ave.

I have emailed Portland mayor & city councilors, Multnomah County Chair & Commissioners, & Sen. Lisa Reynolds & Rep. Shannon Isadore about drug paraphernalia distribution multiple times. I talked to Sen. Lisa Reynolds & Rep. Shannon Isadore about this issue directly at their joint town hall meeting at Lincoln High School in August 2025.

Here's PPOP's current drug paraphernalia distribution schedule:

<https://portlandpeoplesoutreach.org/schedule>

Please make drug paraphernalia distribution ILLEGAL in Oregon. Thank you.