

Submitter: Janet Parker

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Early Childhood and Behavioral Health

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1573

Please support SB 1573.

I am a resident of NW Portland's Stadiumhood since 2009.

It's a no-brainer to me that guardrails should be a necessary component of any harm reduction program. When needle exchanges were first introduced, there was a logic to requiring an addict to give up a dirty needle in order to obtain a clean one. The person given the clean needle is being helped in avoiding getting or spreading communicable diseases. The dirty needle they give up is being responsibly disposed of. Also, on those original exchanges there were typically other services offered, including access to addiction treatment and long-term recovery services. When PPOP was active here recently, it was a disaster for the entire neighborhood. Day and night. Wherever PPOP goes, it is a disaster for those who live nearby. But what's a real no-brainer is that dirty needles and drug paraphernalia, human waste, and people in all states of drug addiction should not be permitted in any child's path to their school.