

Submitter: Alice Nayak

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Early Childhood and Behavioral Health

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1573

I live at 1500 SW 11th Avenue. We have been dealing with open drug use and public drug dealing for a long time. Needle exchange programs have been irresponsible and do not partner with the surrounding community. They show up, bring many drug users into the neighborhood and there is open drug dealing surrounding the set up location. They do not set any boundaries with the substance use disorder community and make our neighborhood unsafe with increased drug dealing. These groups even wear masks so that they cannot be seen or held accountable. This city counsel claims to be for equity but many of my neighbors are low income and disabled and are not protected in the way richer neighborhoods are. Please limit these programs to being in storefronts where they can be held accountable. Please stand for equity such that you are not only protecting the rich neighborhoods from drug dealing and its associated unsafe practices. My neighborhood deserves safety from crimes associated with drug use and drug dealing too. Please put restrictions and accountability in place for these needle exchange programs. Would you want one in front of your residence?