

Submitter: Cambria Benson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Early Childhood and Behavioral Health

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1573

Hello, my name is Cambria Benson and I have two daughters, age 6 and 8 that used to go to Cathedral School, in NW Portland that was a block away from a syringe distribution location. I loved my neighborhood (I used to live in the Pearl) and loved that school and community with all my heart, but due to the syringe distribution and resulting reckless and criminal behavior made the decision to leave the school for the safety of my children. When I left my daughters class, in a school which one operated on a waitlist, dwindled to 9 children. Who wants to send their children to an environment where they are subjected to stepping over needles, human feces, witnessing deranged reckless and criminal behavior of drug users exposing themselves and yielding machetes (which happened on multiple occasions). Our once thriving city and community has been destroyed by programs like this and we need to stop the insanity and enabling of people and programs that have destroyed it and are continuing to make it a place where children, of all people and things don't feel safe.