

Submitter:

Jason Conley

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1583

I have received recovery services that without I would not be clean still. I am celebrating 3 years clean the 20th of this month. I work for The Peer Company doing outreach downtown trying to help other people get off the streets and get clean. We need this funding. Without it we lose our ability to slow down the fentanyl crisis. We lose the ability to help the homeless get off the streets. We lose the ability to recruit mentors and counselors that actually create change in the drug crisis. Our community has suffered and it has done so because of bad decision and policy making. When we've been at the crossroads of making choices between people and money we have chosen money. We have not thrown everything that we have at these problems. Now we're talking about reducing the resources. Everybody wants people to do well. To succeed and not have people struggling on the streets in addiction. Even if you think addiction is abhorrent and homelessness is self-created you still don't want people robbing, stealing, killing, sleeping on the streets. The only way you could get rid of these ailments within our communities is to make people better. Broken people will not stop using. It is going to take an effort to make people care about themselves and see themselves as valuable. The challenge to that is that the people that were talking about are the most traumatized in our community. These are the people whose childhoods were fractured. Who suffer from all forms of abuses. Who self-image is poor, and needs help. The only way we could give him help is by recruiting people to come beside them to help them. This involves schooling and education, nonprofits, for profits. This requires mentors, counselors, sponsors...etc. if we quit on this problem we'll see it return tenfold and with the current drugs that are on the streets it will be worse than we've seen before. I oppose this measure and you should too. Thank you.