DWAYNE YUNKER STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 3



OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 4, 2024

Timothy G. Sekerak Chief Clerk of the House State Capitol Building Salem, OR 97301

RE: Vote Explanation on House Bill 4002 - A

Dear Chief Clerk Sekerak,

Passing legislation aimed at ending Oregon's drug crisis is my top priority this legislative session. I stand with the overwhelming majority of Oregonians who want deadly drugs like fentanyl, heroin, and meth off the streets; addicts in treatment; and dealers and traffickers behind bars. This legislature needs to act in a meaningful way. The citizens of Oregon in harm's way deserve at least that much.

To this end, we've been working all session towards passing real public safety and treatment policy proposals to end Measure 110. At the start of the session, our public safety stakeholders on the front lines requested legislation to address six public safety policy recommendations:

- 1. Reclassify drug possession from an -E violation to an -A misdemeanor
- 2. Restore the definition of drug delivery to pre-2021 law
- 3. Give jails and judges the option for pre-trial holds of drug dealers
- 4. Fund county probation programs
- 5. Create an -A misdemeanor for public use to align with alcohol and marijuana
- 6. Create an -A misdemeanor for use in an enclosed public space that endangers another person (escalates to Class C felony for repeat offenses)

Of the six public safety policy recommendations requested (see attached), House Bill 4002 only addresses one: restoring the definition of drug delivery. Instead, it's more than \$200,000,000 of wrap services without criminal charges. There is no deterrent. There is also no accountability. The bill keeps the failed Oregon Health Authority Measure 110 Oversight and Accountability Council in charge. Where is the policy analysis? What are the possible unintended consequences? There's not a single other state in the nation doing anything remotely similar. It seems like this bill is just a continuation of the failed Measure 110 experiment.

I am voting No on House Bill 4002 because it is a fake fix. I appreciate that our public safety stakeholders have worked tirelessly to get the best deal they could from the Democrats. But the safety of my constituents is at stake. People are dying and it must stop. We need to end Measure 110.

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Sincerely,

Dwayne Yunker

State Representative, House District 3