

Submitter: Anne Campbell

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: SB893

So I live in Coos County. Our sheriff Gabe Fabrizio has proposed a 48 bed sobering center in addition to the regular jail. Here in Coos County we have a disproportionately large homeless population. Drug addiction is rampant. Mental health is not being addressed. A sobering center would make it possible to offer treatment for drug addiction and mental health evaluations. We recently had a homeless woman obviously having a mental health episode. Removing all her clothes and walking naked down the road. To hold her in the jail until she sobered up and could be evaluated a seriously dangerous criminal would have to be released. Decriminalizing small amounts of drugs was supposed to make our lives better. That has obviously backfired. We have done nothing but accumulate more homeless from all over the United States. This sobering center would be a humane a much needed addition in the solution of a commonsense and cost effective way to address this issue.