

Submitter: Thomas Benz
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HJR201
Honorable Representatives:

After nearly destroying our criminal justice system by closing prisons, legalizing hard drugs, passing a no bail law, restricting police traffic stops and spending money on social programs without statistical accountability; now we are asked to circumvent Measure 5 and let the State decide just what is Public Safety. This amendment is literally a blank check. I would submit if the State wanted to support Public Safety aka criminal Justice, they could look next year at reopening prisons, re-instituting the three strikes law, partially funding local jails, fully funding community corrections and County Assistant District Attorneys, Proposing an amendment to reclassify user quantity possession of hard drugs to class B misdemeanor or above. This all could be funded by holding existing state spending to a reasonable level and using funds such as this year's gigantic tax kicker.

A very large segment of your constituents can see no good coming from this proposed amendment and envision more proposed housing for using drug addicts, funding police review committees, ride-along social workers with police and so many other things instead of returning us to a wonderful safe State where personal responsibility was expected and a most had a deep belief that almost all of us can live up to a reasonable expectation of conduct if we are asked. - Thank You for considering my views Thomas E Benz, North Bend