

Submitter: Jenna Ringelheim

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety  
Response

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3946

Dear Committee members and staff:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my perspective as a parent of a preschooler in support of House Bill 3946.

My child attends preschool across the street from Dawson's Park, which is located in the historic and cultural center of Portland's Black community. This park has been a hotspot for gun violence and other crimes in recent years, some of which has been directly linked to the park's open air drug market. Last month, after a year long investigation a convenience store one block from our school was raided and charged with significant drug charges. Some of these charges were dropped because our school is a preschool.

The intention of the original language around schools in Measure 110 was to prevent drug-related activity near places where children and minors are present. That's something I wholeheartedly support. HB 3946 strengthens that intention by updating the law to include preschools—an important and necessary correction.

I strongly support HB 3946 and urge you to pass it. Our littlest learners deserve nothing less.

Thank you for listening.