

Submitter: Ashley Blackmun Schmidt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1015

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 1015, which mandates the Department of Justice to fund eligible entities such as community-based organizations and tribes.

Do you remember this: "Three years after Oregon became the first state in the country to decriminalize drug use—that's including drugs like meth amphetamines and fentanyl—the experiment now appears to be dead. State lawmakers sent a bill last week to Oregon's governor that would once again make it a crime to possess small, personal-use amounts of drugs."

Let's not make the same mistake twice. Instead, I urge you to redirect these funds to bolster mental health services, which would provide a far more effective and sustainable solution to the issue.

Oregon's high-violence communities don't need another social experiment. They need cops, courts, and consequences. SB 1015 is a step backward, and I urge you to scrap it. Focus on what works: arrest, prosecute, incarcerate.