



Village of Evendale Police Department

Chief Niel C. Korte

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December 1st, 2020

Dear Chairman Lang, Vice Chair Plummer, Ranking Member Leland and members of the House Criminal Justice Committee,

I write to you with great concern regarding the future of SB3; Drug Sentencing Law Reform. While I appreciate the intent of this legislation in being supportive of the treatment and rehabilitation of people who have become victims of their addictions, I am convinced that reducing the penalties for drug offenders is a wrong approach.

Court mandated treatment must be a strong and consistent option in the method to reducing drug addiction. Lessening the penalties for drug offenses also lessens our ability to get offenders in front of a judge and reduces the courts' abilities to mandate these programs. The result is a perpetual revolving door of abuse, addiction, crimes committed to fuel this unwanted lifestyle, and the wake of incalculable costs on families and society.

SB 3 as it is currently written is commendable for its attempt to reduce the impact on addiction, but the unintended consequences on the courts' ability to mandate treatment and to continue their attempt to alleviate personal and societal costs of this far-reaching problem must be addressed.

Please consider alternative initiatives that will both benefit the individual and maintain public safety.

Respectfully,

Chief Niel Korte