From: C Moll

To: Senate Finance Committee; Sen. Peter Micciche

 Subject:
 SB 32 SB 33 SB 34 written testimony

 Date:
 Friday, May 03, 2019 4:02:34 PM

I almost called but chickened out. I hate public speaking..even by phone.

I support SB 32 33 and 34.

A couple years back I had a user dealer two doors down from me. Their house looked almost identical to ours. So all the users coming to buy drugs would very often mistake our house for theirs. I had two very young little daughter's living in our home we just purchased. We had people drive right up on front lawn, one person opened our front door trying to enter. It was scary...and it happened often. My biggest fear being someone high would break in to our house thinking it was the drug house, looking to steal money or drugs.

We worked very closely with the police department in an effort to put an end to things. We painted our garage door a different color than theirs and put a post in the ground out front with a no trespassing sign to keep people from driving/parking on front lawn we even wrote "drug free home" on the sign. I helped start a neighborhood watch as part of this process. I passed all licence plates to kenai police department that I saw at the house. Nothing seemed to have any effect.

One vehicle in particular got in a car accident that very night after resulting in a DEATH. I reported it to police being parked at house 3 different times that day and reported it again after seeing vehicle at beach parking lot using drugs after leaving the drug house.

The police expended alot of resources on this house...they told me more resources than any other problem in the city at that time.

This went on for over a year. One morning reading radio kenai news, it said the guy got caught with heroin and was released on site. I didn't understand. I called the police and was told it was all SB91. I was so frustrated that despite all the effort by me and police there was nothing we could do to get rid of this guy. We finally got what I thought would be a felony charge and he was released on site! They eventually, through lots of police pressure on the house, got some minor charges on the guy. He didn't go to jail but could no longer afford his mortgage and his house was forclosed on. He moved to funny River and is now their problem. I believe that happens alot...where cities with police departments...pressure these dealers enough to get them to move to the outskirts...like funny River, nikiski, Sterling, kasilof and they become someone else's problem.

We had an issue with another house in the neighborhood not long after this guy left. User dealer in a habitat for humanity house. Our bike was stolen by the owner of this house...we know bc my husband confronted the guy riding the bike while on a bike ride with our little girls. He made the guy walk the bike back to our house. He gave us his name and we followed up with police. No jail time bc he denied stealing it...said he bought it from someone. This house eventually got shut down also, with the help of troopers and police, not bc they had the ability to put people in jail, but bc our neighborhood watch pleaded with habitat to find a way to foreclose on them, which they did. Police helped get them out of house when habitat kicked them out. This particular house resulted in many thefts in the neighborhood. It only takes one bad house to negatively impact an entire neighborhood and beyond.

Please make drug possession a felony. I believe if there are real consequences, users won't be so brazen and public with their use and law enforcement will have the tools they need to keep the public safe. Listen to law enforcement. I'm tired of finding needles on kenai beaches and city sidewalks. I'm tired of explaining to my 5 and 7 yr old daughters what a drug needle is and how dangerous they are. Users and user dealers are more dangerous to the community than anyone wants to admit but I have experienced it first hand.

Please support these crime bills.

Respectfully, Catherine Felt