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Dear Chair Prozanski and members of the Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation,

We are Next Up Action Fund, formerly known as the Bus Project, our mission is to build political power with diverse young people to achieve a more just and equitable Oregon. As an organization that builds political power and strong, effective leadership pipelines for diverse young people, our work and our communities are greatly impacted by the implementation of Measure 110. SB 755 is a key bill for the successful implementation of Measure 110, and we strongly support its passage.

Covid-19 has further exacerbated many inequities that already existed in our communities, and the overdose crisis is no exception. Oregonians were already struggling with addiction before the pandemic: 1 to 2 Oregonians died from a drug overdose every day, and 1 in 10 Oregonians struggled with Substance Use Disorder. OHA has reported a 70% increase in overdose deaths during the spring of 2020 compared to the Spring of 2019. It is clear that we cannot wait to address Oregon's addiction crisis, and it is also a critical component of pandemic relief. People are dying every day and need these services now, and through SB 755, you have the opportunity to help save lives.

Please pass SB 755 so that Oregonians can receive the critical, and often life-saving, support that they need.

Thank you,

Isabela Villarreal  
Policy and Communications Manager