

Dear Chair Prozanski and members of the Senate Committee,

My name is Chelsey Fowler and I am a resident of Multnomah County, college student, and yoga teacher. I am writing in support of the Drug Treatment and Recovery Act, SB 755.

I am a recovering addict that without the help of treatment would not have been able to get sober. I tried for many years to kick heroin on my own and failed again and again. From experience I know addiction is not something that can be overcome alone. While I wanted to change, it wasn't until I received help through treatment services that I was able to achieve any sort of freedom. I went through the Native American Rehabilitation Association and after completing their program continued at Central City Concern's Recovery Mentor Program. In these treatment centers I was introduced to support groups, learned new coping skills, and received the time and space to be sober without substances available. I will have six years free from all drugs and alcohol on March 20th, undoubtedly because of the support I received.

In the last six years I have been a working member of two non-profit organizations, become a certified yoga instructor where I have taught in recovery centers, and will be graduating with a bachelor's degree from PSU in Spring of 2022. I am grateful treatment allowed me the opportunity to not only have my mind back but also become a functioning member of society. I think everyone deserves a chance at recovery and living a full life before it is too late.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this life saving bill, SB 755

Sincerely,  
Chelsey Fowler