

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

My name is Mary Schutten, and I am a sister, aunt, mother, and grandmother. I have seen active drug abuse up close. I am also a Portland Community College (PCC) instructor in Team Problem Solving. Finally, I am an active community builder (self-appointed) and an active Democrat from Precinct 4101 in Multnomah County.

I am writing to support the implementation of the Drug Addiction Treatment and Recovery Act, passed by our community with a 17% margin.

I have a family member with an addiction illness. It has him in and out of living on the streets and in and out of jail. It's been heartbreaking as our family worked to pick up the pieces for over 18 years. We watch his promise and talents waste and fade away. His illness drove him to do desperate things that never ended well. He is a father who doesn't see his kid and a worker who has a tough time getting and keeping work.

With proper healthcare, people can and do recover, so I am NOT for waiting to implement Measure 110!

I see it every term I teach at PCC. The range of my students varies, from Nike supervisors to those just out of treatment. I am telling you, people can and do change when given treatment, respect, and a path forward.

Please respect the will of the voters and let's not waste any more limited resources on incarceration and focus our resources on life-rebuilding treatment! Please pass SB 755 and fund drug addiction treatment and recovery services without delay.

Thank you for listening, and thank you for your service to the community,

Mary Schutten