

Hello I am Rachel Halbach. I live in Hillsboro Oregon and am the parent of three children, with another on the way. We know that addiction is caused by a myriad of factors in a person's life, we also know that jail does not address the root causes of addiction of substance abuse issues. People of color, specifically Black, Indigenous, and Latinx communities as well as low-income Oregonians, have historically been disproportionately harmed by Oregon's failed approach of treating addiction like a crime, rather than a health issue. They are underrepresented in the healthcare system, while being overrepresented in the criminal justice system. They are consistently abused by our law enforcement under the guise of addressing poverty or addiction issues. In order to create a safe and equitable Oregon for all people lawmakers must ensure that the law is fully funded, without delay. Will you uphold this new law that voters voted on?

Thank you, Rachel