

Dear Chair Prozanski and members of the Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation, my name is Ian Curtis and I am a student at Willamette University and a registered voter in Senate District 4 in Eugene. Thank you for this opportunity to speak in favor of SB 755.

As a political science student here at Willamette, I am learning daily about the injustice of our criminal justice system and the war on drugs that our country has committed for decades. I feel that it is important that I stand up in support of impactful and measured reforms that we can take today to ensure that those suffering from addiction receive treatment, not stand trial; that we build resilient communities rather than resolving to punish those who have done wrong. I believe that by standing for those who have been hurt by our system is the right thing to do, and I want to help them see a brighter sun rise tomorrow.

Our state has the opportunity to act now—at the ballot box in November, Oregonians made their voices heard that the system needs to change, and that starts with SB 755. Every day, Oregonians are sentenced for victimless crimes, crimes that may reflect nothing more than lack of judgement or be a remnant of a difficult upbringing that they endured. Please support SB 755 and help Oregonians get back on their feet, prioritizing the treatment they need over the punishment that so many don't deserve.

Thank you.
Sincerely,
Ian Curtis