

Submitter: Anthony Johnson

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110
Implementation

Measure: SB1541

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, members of the committee,

I was honored to serve as a chief petitioner of Measure 110 and I'm writing to urge you to oppose Senate Bill 1541 because the proposal would cut \$60 million a year from lifesaving, low-barrier addiction recovery services. This is the wrong approach, and is not aligned with the will of Oregon voters who passed Measure 110 with 58% of the vote. Thanks to the Oregon legislature investing just over \$31 million in Measure 110 services to expand access to vital addiction recovery services, over 16,000 Oregonians were helped by these services. This is incredibly important work that provides hope during a national crisis of drug overdose deaths.

Next month, \$270 million more is slated to be invested to increase access to lifesaving services including housing, peer support, harm reduction, overdose prevention and low-barrier recovery treatment services across our great state. While these funds will help save and improve lives, this money still doesn't meet the need as the Measure 110 Oversight & Accountability Council received applications from service providers for \$390 million. Cutting these funds when they don't even meet the current demand will lead to more lives ruined and lost.

This is the absolute wrong time to make cuts. Please uphold the will of the voters and provide needed support to our struggling behavioral health system by rejecting any attempt to cut Measure 110 funding sources for programs that are saving lives and will continue saving lives.

Thank you.