

Submitter: Leah Jo Figueroa Carnine

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110
Implementation

Measure: SB1541

My name is Leah Jo Figuero Carnine, I am a primary care physician assistant in Eugene, OR. I am writing to oppose House Bill 4016-3 which would Measure 110 services by \$29 million. As a healthcare provider working with underserved communities in Lane County, I have seen first hand the positive impact of Measure 110. The -3 amendment of BH 4016 would remove critical harm reduction and addiction recovery services that my patients rely on. Measure 110 funding literally saves lives. In just six months, that amount of money has helped over 16,000 people across Oregon access addiction recovery services and life saving harm reduction services. Overdose rates are on the rise around the country, and here in Oregon. The funding for Measure 110 is working in real time to prevent these deaths. I have had patients overdose, and patients who have lost loved ones to overdose. The stress, loss, and devastation on entire communities is very real, and is a threat to our public health infrastructure. This is the absolute wrong time to make cuts. Oregon voters approved M110 by a 17 point margin. M110 is just getting started, and our behavioral health system is already strained by COVID-19. 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. I am submitting testimony today on behalf of my patients in hopes that you will oppose HB4-16-3.

Thank you.