

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

The College Democrats of Oregon are writing to *oppose SB 1541*.

College Democrats of Oregon is a coalition of over eight campus chapters from across the state of Oregon and consists of an executive leadership team of college students from across the state chapters.

We are against Senate Bill 1541 because it would effectively take \$150 million dollars from the Drug Treatment and Recovery Services fund. This would be taking funds from organizations providing substance disorder treatment services across the state. We value life saving treatments services and this would reduce the amount of services available to Oregon residents.

The people in Oregon voted to provide and bolster these substantial and necessary changes to the state to help prevent and treat substance use disorders, this bill would go against the goals of Ballot Measure 110.

SB 1541 would be taking away \$150 million dollars that would be going to support communities in Oregon disproportionately impacted by the “War on Drugs”, including communities of color. We must support fellow Oregonians, we must prioritize treatment for life-saving substance use disorders, especially during the middle of the pandemic. Enough lives have already been lost.

We believe that Oregonians deserve life-saving treatments and passing SB 1541 would reduce the number of funding going to save Oregonians lives. The Drug Treatment and Recovery Services fund should be fully available for the intended purpose voted on by Oregonians.

Respectfully, we oppose SB 1541.

College Democrats of Oregon Executive Board