



February 7, 2022

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation

Re: Testimony in Opposition of SB 1541

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. My name is Jessica Maravilla, Policy Director at the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon (ACLU of Oregon), and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of our organization in opposition of SB 1541. The ACLU of Oregon is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing civil liberties and civil rights with more than 28,000 members statewide.

ACLU of Oregon has been supporting the effort to pass, fully fund and implement Measure 110. This issue is crucial to our communities across the state. **Oregonians understand that true public safety is created when we center people and communities and treat drug addiction as a public health issue.** Oregonians recognize that overcriminalization and over incarceration have not made our communities safer and have disproportionately harmed Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) Oregonians and their families and communities.

Thanks to this landmark law, people are no longer being arrested and jailed for possession of small amounts of drugs, which can saddle them with criminal records that create lifelong barriers to employment and housing. Instead, they are being connected to health and recovery services, including peer support, housing assistance, and harm reduction services to help them on their paths to recovery. We are now beginning to see the positive effects of Measure 110. **In just six months, the \$31 Million that the Legislature granted in emergency M110 funding has helped over 16,000 people across Oregon access critical addiction recovery services.**

SB 1541 would take this funding and some, a total of \$120 Million, directly from Measure 110 services to utilize for illegal cannabis enforcement. While we recognize that addressing illegal cannabis operations across the state is important and deserves attention, we do not support the funding being taken from M110 services to do so. We believe that this issue must be addressed with another funding source, rather than taking funding away from M110 services.

We urge the committee to oppose SB 1541. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,
Jessica Maravilla
Policy Director of ACLU of Oregon