

Submitter: Linda Peng

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110
Implementation

Measure: SB1541

My name is Linda Peng, MD, and I am an Addiction Medicine Physician in Washington County. I see firsthand how the long wait times for medical care and the shortage in supportive housing and harm reduction services impacts the lives of my patients and their children. My patients are losing friends and family members to overdoses--many of the people who are dying are Oregonians who are trying to quit using drugs. They simply cannot get the help they need when they need it. Measure 110 offers our state hope and a large amount of funding in the face of steeply rising drug overdose rates. Please oppose HB 4016-3 and SB 1541 to preserve funding to treat my patients and offer them a better future.

I work primary in the hospital, and I see so many patients who come into the hospital with serious medical issues related to substance use, often because of lack of access treatment and/or supportive housing. We stabilize people in the hospital but often have no choice but to discharge them back to unsupportive living situations while they face serious wait times for treatment. So many patients are motivated to go to treatment, but can't access what they need.