



Representative Bobby Levy

Serving Umatilla, Union & Wallowa Counties

Chair Nosse, Vice Chair Goodwin, Vice Chair Nelson and Members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Bobby Levy and I represent House District 58. HB 2833 will aid the other related opioid harm reduction bills as it will serve as a database to track opioid related deaths and the administration of short-acting opioid antagonist drugs in an effort to quantify how many lives will be saved in relation to administration of the aforementioned therapeutics.

The creation of an electronic system tracking deaths resulting from opioids and the administration of naloxone is important as it would allow for more effective monitoring and analysis of the opioid epidemic. Accurate data and detailed record of how and where people are using opioids and how they are being treated can help law enforcement, researchers, and public health officials to better understand the extent and the severity of the opioid crisis. By tracking where and when individuals are dying, and which treatments are being used, experts can better understand what interventions may be needed in order to combat opioid abuse. Additionally, having detailed records of the administration of naloxone and other short-acting opioid antagonists can help to inform which areas and individuals may need additional access to further treatment. This data can also be used to inform public policy and direct resources to areas in most need of assistance.

For opioid use to be studied, and to be studied effectively, a relational database is necessary for storing data related to opioid abuse. Such a database would allow for data to be shared and referenced across multiple fields.

To truly reduce the harm of opioids, there needs to be hard numbers. The number of fatalities, overdoses, and relapses due to opioids are vital to knowing the severity and where to send the resources to be the most effective.

Every community in Oregon is being impacted. The institution of a database is essential if we are being serious about saving lives.

Best,

Representative Bobby Levy, House District 58