



**health
justice
recovery
alliance**

February 8, 2023

Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chairs Walters and Reschke, and members of the committee:

The Health Justice Recovery Alliance is writing in strong opposition to HB 2089.

The Health Justice Recovery Alliance represents more than 75 community-based organizations across the state with deep knowledge and experience working to serve and strengthen local communities. Our members include medical associations, culturally-specific organizations, labor, harm reduction and addiction recovery providers, advocates and people in recovery.

Our work is centered on the implementation of Measure 110, the Drug Addiction Treatment & Recovery Act, and ensuring that the needs of the communities most harmed by the war on drugs — Black, Latino, Native, Indigenous, and tribal communities are met.

HB 2089 would take more than \$40 million away from currently funded Measure 110 overdose prevention and addiction recovery services—just as these lifesaving services are being made available in every county in the state to help address this deadly epidemic and provide people a path to recovery. That is equivalent to cutting 50 percent of current service funding from Lane, Washington, Jackson, Union, Morrow, Umatilla, Sherman, Wasco, Baker, Grant, and Gilliam Counties.

This is not the time to reduce funding for these services. Overdoses and deaths from overdoses are higher than ever before. The proposed cuts to Measure 110 funding will scale back services and contribute to fewer people receiving the help they need.

Voters do still support Measure 110. In September 2022, almost 2 years after the measure passed, independent polling of likely voters across Oregon found that 58% continued to support Measure 110—by the exact same margin as the measure originally passed by. In addition, voters supported many of the individual services provided by more than 80%.

Governor Kotek, Legislative leadership, and lawmakers across party lines recognized the incredible need and committed at the beginning of this session to focus on addressing Oregon's addiction and houseless crisis.

Diverting funds from these services will cause irreparable harm. We must treat this crisis with the urgency it requires by preserving Measure 110 funding.

I urge you to oppose HB 2089.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Health Justice Recovery Alliance