



Dear Sponsors of House Bill 3431,

I'm writing to urge you to identify an alternate funding source for HB 3431. The bill as it is currently written would cut Measure 110 services by half. **For culturally specific, community-based providers like us, any cuts to Measure 110 would be devastating.**

Measure 110 represents the first time that our communities have seen funds earmarked specifically for addiction recovery services for Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities. Our communities are always expelled from services, because providers don't understand our culture or values, or don't speak our language. Providers have been advocating for culturally specific services for decades, and Measure 110 represents the first time we're actually seeing these services not only come to fruition, but also scale up to help and start to meet the tremendous need for these services. Measure 110 has already enabled as many as 60,000 Oregonians to receive lifesaving services; we can't go back now.

Funding HB 3431 by diverting Measure 110 dollars away from our programs would also be detrimental to our work. We're already facing a 25% cut in funding for future Measure 110 services; the latest cannabis tax revenue forecast shows a significant decrease in funds that will be available for future funding cycles. We can't handle any more cuts to these vital services. Our communities have been ignored and suffered for long enough.

Oregon desperately needs more investment in programs to increase housing affordability and create more equitable communities, however, using Measure 110 funding as the revenue source for this bill is not the right way to create those investments. Using Measure 110 dollars to fund the Economic Equity Investment Program would result in the need to slash funding for vital, evidence-based, culturally and linguistically-specific addiction recovery services. For the first time ever, thanks to Measure 110, our communities that have been most harmed by the war on drugs are among those leading the effort toward our healing. Our communities have been criminalized and traumatized by our country's racist drug policies for multiple generations, and Measure 110 is an integral part of how we heal and restore our communities.

Providers like us are counting on Measure 110 funds to be able to continue offering the vital services we provide to some of the most vulnerable members of our community. Just as we're beginning to hire more staff and expand programs, HB 3431 brings more uncertainty to an already challenging workforce situation.

To learn more about how we're utilizing Measure 110 funds to expand care and help our communities heal, check out [this recent article from *We Out Here Magazine*](#) that details several of our projects.

Please, stand with Oregon voters and the communities most harmed by the war on drugs and identify an alternate funding source for HB 3431.

Sincerely,

The Oregon Black Brown Indigenous Advocacy Coalition