



**bridges
to change**

Chair Bynum, Vice-Chairs Morgan and Nguyen, Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Monta Knudson, and I represent Bridges to Change organization or I am a provider here to testify as neutral on HB 3431.

Measure 110 has brought hope to Oregon families and communities struggling with substance use by providing unprecedented funding to pay for treatment and lifting criminal penalties for use. As a result, Measure 110 has become an integral part of Oregon's behavioral health services, creating a system where people can get the help they need without losing their jobs, their children, or their dreams for the future.

HB 3431, as currently written, would divert 50% of proceeds away from the Drug Treatment & Recovery Fund, pitting community priorities against each other. Although we understand the intent behind HB 3431 and support the policy, we have concerns about the bill's impact on Measure 110 funding and its potential effects on community-based providers.

Oregon has enough money to fund both HB 3431 and Measure 110 without affecting Measure 110 providers. We do not need to choose between life and death or homeownership and entrepreneurship. However, HB 3431 would reduce the 2023-2025 biennium revenue projections for Measure 110 services by 25%, cutting the fund by approximately \$97.5 million. This would leave less than half of the current service level for addiction recovery services. Oregon ranks last in access to services and second in addiction rates; we cannot afford to cut services.

Measure 110 providers who would be most harmed by these cuts include those serving Black, Brown, Indigenous, Tribal, Latino, and



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other communities of color. The Health Justice Recovery Alliance supports the policy intent of HB 3431 but opposes its current form. Slashing funding for evidence-based, culturally and linguistically-specific addiction recovery services would create competition among small, culturally-specific providers for funds, setting a dangerous precedent for diverting Measure 110 funds from their intended purpose.

We encourage the Committee to consult with stakeholders, including service providers, individuals in recovery, and families affected by substance use, to ensure any changes made align with the goals of Measure 110 and promote a comprehensive, public health approach to addiction recovery. We also call for investment in communities without undermining existing addiction services and suggest finding alternative funding sources for HB 3431. Our coalition is committed to working together to implement and protect Measure 110 and opposes HB 3431 in its current form.

Monta Knudson, CEO

Bridges to Change



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What could we do to help ensure representation, promote meaningful engagement, empower decision making and obtain feedback from the most-impacted community members?

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