

March 27, 2023

Dear Chair Bynum, Vice-Chairs Morgan & Nguyen, and committee members:

I am writing on behalf of Cascade AIDS Project (CAP) to urge you to amend House Bill 3431 to robustly fund the Economic Equity Investment Fund from a source other than the Oregon Marijuana Account. As introduced, HB 3431 would cut funding designated by Measure 110 for substance-use disorder services in half. Although CAP strongly supports the Economic Equity Investment Fund—we testified in favor of establishing the Fund last year—we believe that funding it by diverting dollars from addiction services would threaten the implementation of Measure 110 just as it's gaining momentum; take away support that the state has committed to community-based substance-use disorder service providers, including culturally specific providers; and ultimately harm people experiencing addiction, who are disproportionately people of color. Please, identify an alternative funding source for the Economic Equity Investment Fund.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jonathan Frochtzwajg

Public Policy & Grants Manager, Cascade AIDS Project

Interim Chief Executive Officer

Emily Gilliland

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