



M110 IMPACT:

HB2513

03/28/2023

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Robert M Sanders in Support

Chair Nosse, Vicechairs, and distinguished members of the House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care, for the record; my name is Robert Sanders, and I am providing written testimony in support of HB2513.

First, I want to thank Representative Nosse for his leadership on this issue, and all members who have dedicated themselves to ensuring all Oregonians have equitable access to life-saving services within our state.

When I returned home from my second deployment, I brought Alcohol Use Disorder as a coping mechanism with me. This quickly spiraled out of control as my disease progressed to the opioid crisis that's running rampant within our state, and I was left homeless - destitute, and unable to navigate out of the reality I found myself in.

I want to skip to the life that I have today; I am currently married to the mother of my child - we take her to soccer practice, do homework together, and lead through example of finding your passion and overcoming obstacles on a daily basis.

While this may sound normal to you, it wouldn't have been possible for me without Recovery Support Services and my Mentor, who was able to guide me, step by step, on how to accomplish the goals that I had set for myself. Today, that's resulted in me becoming a college graduate, providing services to those who are coming behind me.

I am supporting this bill, because it offers organization, support, and accountability. While you will hear of the many successes that are already occurring through M110 services, I believe this bill will solidify the long-term success of the program.

I currently work at the 4D Recovery as the Associate Director of Services, and although I am testifying on my own behalf today - I can say without question that Measure 110 has expanded our reach and ability to make further impacts within the community we serve, youth & young adults.

It is imperative that we safeguard the investment that's been made into recovery support services AND continue growing the system as a whole.

According to OHSU's Gap Analysis, Oregon's SUD Recovery system remains 49% under capacity

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