

Testimony SUPPORTING HB 2513

Submitted by Oregon Recovers

March 28, 2023

House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Chair Nosse, Vice-Chair Goodwin, Vice-Chair Nelson, and members of the House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care:

My name is Tony Morse, and it's my honor and privilege to serve as the Policy and Advocacy Director of Oregon Recovers. We are a movement of people in recovery from addiction with the mission to transform Oregon's fractured and incomplete addiction recovery system into a recovery-based, continuum of care which recognizes addiction as a chronic disease. I'm also a person in long-term recovery, which for me means I've not had a drink in over 6 years.

I'm here to urge you to support HB 2513.

This bill is the result of an open and meaningful process by which an extensive range of varied stakeholders were able to participate in an impactful way.

- Over the course of several weeks, Chair Nosse led a work group where he facilitated rigorous discussion among a wide range of perspectives regarding Measure 110. Oregon Recovers participated in the work group, and is grateful for the opportunity. The process was transparent and inclusive, and it gave community stakeholders an opportunity to provide unique and valuable insight. Oregon Recovers appreciates Chair Nosse's work on this bill, and we look forward to working with him on additional efforts designed to solve Oregon's lethal addiction crisis.

Oregon has an addiction crisis, and strong delivery of Measure 110 funding is needed.

- 18.22% of Oregonians age 12 and older have a Substance Use Disorder--the **second highest** rate in the country. That means 669,753 Oregon residents age 12 and up have a Substance Use Disorder. That's about 11,162 people per Oregon House District, and roughly 22,325 people per Oregon Senate District.
- Addiction and recovery service providers are on the front lines connecting some of our most vulnerable community members with lifesaving resources such as sober housing, overdose prevention efforts, and crucial peer support services.
- These service providers depend on efficient delivery of funding, something HB 2513 improves through the strengthening of the grantmaking processes. The Oversight and Accountability Council is tasked with grant and funding oversight, and continuity of expertise among Council membership is preserved through implementation of staggered terms of service.

- Put another way, this bill is designed to help get lifesaving money where it needs to go without disruption or delay.

This bill improves transparency and accountability, and sets forth important criteria for measuring success.

- HB 2513 improves the effectiveness, transparency, and accountability in the administration of Measure 110 through improvement of program audit timelines. Behavioral health initiatives require adequate time to perform before they can be assessed accurately, and this bill provides for exactly that.
- Moreover, this bill adds important performance audit criteria, including metrics related to grants and funding systems, as well as training opportunities provided to law enforcement officials. Such additions will enhance understanding of Measure 110's performance as a whole, and help identify areas in need of fine tuning.

Please vote yes on HB 2513, and allow a strengthened Measure 110 to effectuate the intent of Oregon voters. Thank you.