

Neutral Testimony Regarding HB 3431

Submitted by Oregon Recovers

March 28, 2023

House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business

Chair Bynum, Vice-Chair Nguyen, Vice-Chair Morgan, and Members of the House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business:

My name is Tony Morse, and I serve as the Policy and Advocacy Director for Oregon Recovers. We are a movement of people in recovery from addiction focused on solving Oregon's addiction crisis. 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 today to talk about the impact that HB 3431 would have on M110 funding.

Measure 110 providers deliver lifesaving support to some of Oregon's most vulnerable community members.

- Measure 110 funds pay for things like sober housing, overdose prevention efforts, and crucial peer support services. But cannabis tax revenue projections are significantly down, and that places the future of these lifelines in jeopardy.
- With the vitality of their revenue stream in doubt, Measure 110 providers are already having to think about scaling back services. Providers cannot withstand further funding reductions, but that is exactly what HB 3431 does, and it does so on a colossal scale. Specifically, this bill as written cuts Measure 110 funding by half.
- A cut of this magnitude would have significant consequences for our state. Oregon already has the second-highest addiction rate in the country, and people struggling with addiction depend on the services Measure 110 providers offer our communities.

Oregon voters approved Measure 110, and recovery service providers have relied on that approval.

- Measure 110 providers have hired staff and made investments in housing, programs, and properties. Drastically altering the allocation of Measure 110 funds curtails the efficacy of these investments. A large funding reallocation goes against the will of voters, and it punishes Measure 110 providers for doing what those voters asked.

Oregon has an addiction crisis, and lifesaving Measure 110 services need funding.

- 18.22% of Oregonians age 12 and older have a Substance Use Disorder. 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.

I urge you to please identify an alternative source of funding for HB 3431. Thank you.