



**health
justice
recovery
alliance**

Saturday, April 7, 2023

Co-chairs Steiner and Sanchez, members of the Committee,

For the record my name is Ron Williams and I am the Director of Outreach for the Health Justice Recovery Alliance. We are a statewide advocacy organization that represents more than 75 community-based organizations across the state with deep knowledge and experience working to serve and strengthen local communities. Our work is fully focused on implementing Measure 110, ensuring that it centers the needs of the communities most harmed by the war on drugs - Black, Latino, Indigenous, Tribal and other communities of color. I am also a person in long term recovery. I share this so that you know that while I am here on behalf of the Health Justice Recovery Alliance, this issue is also deeply personal to me. On behalf of our coalition, I strongly urge you to support Measure 110 and increased funding for addiction recovery services. Oregon needs more access to treatment, supportive housing, harm reduction, and other evidence-based addiction recovery services. These services save lives.

Already we know from Oregon Health Authority data that more than 60,000 people have already received help thanks to services funded by Measure 110. Prior to Measure 110, Oregon had 50% of the addiction service capacity it needed to meet demand, according to a gap analysis report released by Oregon Health & Science University and Portland State University School of Public Health in September.

For far too long Oregon has ranked last in the nation in access to addiction recovery services. With the right support and resources, people can and do recover from addiction and go on to lead fulfilling, productive lives. That support is exactly what Measure 110 services fund.

On behalf of our coalition, I urge you to please secure \$48 million in general fund money for Measure 110 services so that the program may continue to be fully funded, and services maintained at their current level. 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 personal use, Measure 110 is creating a system where people can get the help they need without losing their jobs, their children, or their dreams for the future.

Sincerely,

Ron Williams

Director of Outreach,

Health Justice Recovery Alliance