

Submitter: Jonathan Sargent

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety
Response

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3321

3/13/25

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB 2502, HB 3321, HB 3375

Dear Co-Chairs Prozanski and Kropf, Members of the Joint Committee on Addiction and Community Safety Response:

My name is Jonathan Sargent and I am writing to express my support for HB 2502, HB 3321, and HB 3375. In my role as a former school counselor and current licensed professional counselor, I have seen firsthand the urgent need for stronger primary prevention programs and expanded services for all youth in Colorado and in Oregon's.

I appreciate the Legislature's efforts to develop and implement a primary prevention state strategy (HB 3321).

Ensure a clear and comprehensive assessment of youth substance use prevention, screening, intervention, and treatment and support invaluable recovery high schools (HB 3375, HB 2502).

Strengthen the role of the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission, requiring distinct and regular youth-focused and primary prevention reporting on plans and outcomes (HB 2502, HB 3321, HB 3375, and ultimately HB 2929).

If these bills merge, I respectfully request that the definition of primary prevention remain strong and that a clear, strategic approach to primary prevention not be weakened. Additionally, I urge the Committee to consider ensuring explicit youth and primary prevention reporting requirements as a distinct pillar within HB 2929.

Thank you for your leadership on these critical issues. By supporting these bills, you will safeguard Oregon's youth, strengthen families, and promote healthier communities across our state. I appreciate your consideration and respectfully request your "Do Pass" and "Yes" vote on these measures.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Sargent