

Dear Chair Prozanski and members of the Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation,

The voters have spoken. We want and need drug treatment services NOW. The cost to our communities of not funding treatment now is enormous. As a retired psychotherapist, I have personally witnessed the fact that with the right support, people can recover from drug addiction and become healthy, contributing members of our society. To delay funding is to choose to allow the problems caused by untreated drug addiction to continue to escalate.

We didn't vote for an 18-month delay of these desperately-needed services. No one has provided any evidence to me as a voter that delaying funding for drug treatment services is a logical response to the problems resulting from the pandemic. In fact, it is illogical. All of the problems and suffering caused by a lack of treatment services will just continue to grow and are actually magnified by the pandemic. It makes absolutely no sense to delay the implementation of Measure 110. To do so is to go against the wishes of the voters of Oregon, who want to address this significant public health issue that we have already agreed should be funded and implemented now.

Please pass SB 755 to implement Measure 110 in full and without delay.

Sincerely,
Darlene B. Fishel
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