



Oregon Society of Addiction Medicine

A Chapter of American Society of Addiction Medicine

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March 1, 2021

Floyd F. Prozanski Jr.

Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation

900 Court Street, NE

State Capitol, Room S-413

Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for SB755

Dear Chairman Prozanski and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation,

On behalf of the Oregon Society of Addiction Medicine (ORSAM), the medical specialty society representing physicians and clinicians in Oregon who specialize in the prevention and treatment of addiction, we would like to take this opportunity to provide our support for SB755. With opioid-involved deaths rising in Oregon, likely due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic,ⁱ it is vital that Oregonians have access to high-quality, evidence-based and comprehensive addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery services.

Oregon has long required bold action to improve its addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery infrastructure. Recognizing this fact, Oregon's voters approved Measure 110 by a 17 point margin. ORSAM would like to emphasize that the summary of Measure 110, as presented to voters, stated that addiction recovery centers would "provide drug users with triage, health assessments, treatment, recovery services."ⁱⁱ It is critically important that policymakers understand the difference between treatment, which can include medications for addiction treatment and counseling, and recovery services such as peer support specialists. Recovery services are not treatment. Implementation of Measure 110 must include increased funding for treatment services in Oregon to ensure that all those suffering from addiction receive appropriate care.

As the number of addiction-related deaths in Oregon continues to grow, it is critical that the Oregon legislature rapidly implement the provisions of Measure 110 to improve health outcomes and save lives. ORSAM appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on this effort, and shares the state of Oregon's goal of ending the addiction crisis. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Moxie Loeffler at moxieloeffler@gmail.com, or at 603-667-3696.

Sincerely,

Moxie Loeffler, DO, MPH

President, Oregon Society of Addiction Medicine

CC:

The Honorable Kim Thatcher
The Honorable Michael Dembrow
The Honorable Sara Gelser
The Honorable James Manning
The Honorable Dallas Heard
The Honorable Dennis Linthicum

ⁱ American Medical Association. (2020). Issue brief: Reports of increases in opioid- and other drug-related overdose and other concerns during COVID pandemic. Available at <https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2020-12/issue-brief-increases-in-opioid-related-overdose.pdf>

ⁱⁱ Ballotpedia (2020). Oregon Measure 110, Drug Decriminalization and Addiction Treatment Initiative.

Available at:

[https://ballotpedia.org/Oregon_Measure_110,_Drug_Decriminalization_and_Addiction_Treatment_Initiative_\(2020\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Oregon_Measure_110,_Drug_Decriminalization_and_Addiction_Treatment_Initiative_(2020))