

Submitter: Tracy M

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110
Implementation

Measure: SB1541

Greetings,

Please oppose SB 1541 on the grounds that it is not an appropriate use of Measure 110 funds. If the State wants to police illegal marijuana growing and distribution, those funds should come from somewhere else; not from Measure 110.

As a voter, I expected Measure 110 to implement recovery programs to help us move away from criminalizing addiction and more towards restoration and healing both for individuals struggling with addiction and, by extension, healing also for our families, communities, and cities as people get support making better decisions for their life and health and able to continue in society. I heard yesterday that the purpose of this particular bill is to redirect funding away from these recovery efforts and use it to fund police to go after illegal marijuana growers; this makes no sense to me. While it makes sense that the State would want resources to enforce laws, why take funding from Measure 110 recovery support and divert it to some other purpose? This is not what Measure 110 is for. We need those dollars for the life and health of people struggling with addiction.

This suggested use of funding (police to go after illegal growers) is NOT in line with the intention of Measure 110 or my expectations regarding implementation. If Senator Knopp or others wish to fund police to go after illegal marijuana growers, I hope they can use appropriately earmarked funding and not divert funding that was intended for other purposes. Use of funds for purposes other than what the public voted for is dishonest, and prioritizing police and marijuana growers over the pain of individuals, families, and communities who are in need of recovery programs is cruel.

Marijuana is not what is causing the kinds of addictions that Measure 110 seeks to address. What justification is there to take this funding that the people are asking to go to support recovery and use it for something else that is unrelated? What good will going after illegal marijuana growers do for people suffering from addiction to opioid, heroin, or other addictive drugs? There are people and communities out there in need of comprehensive recovery programs, and use of Measure 110 funds and implementation of programs should prioritize the lives and health of individuals and communities struggling with addiction and recovery.

Please keep the Measure 110 funding for its original purpose and oppose the proposed use of Measure 110 funds for policing unlawful marijuana growing and

distribution. Policing and enforcement may sound like a good idea, but if so, then it needs to come from a different budget.