

Submitter: Roberta Robles

On Behalf Of: M110 Rules Advisory Committee member

Committee: House Committee On Economic Recovery and Prosperity

Measure: HB4016

1. The OLCC has not done a good job of rolling out an equitable cannabis program. For instance my application for certification for MBE/WBE in the hemp industry was declined because of FDA policies. This response was nonsensical to the other OLCC cannabis business who were able to successfully enroll without FDA approval.

2. The OLCC does not have the capacity to adequately forecast demand. Economic demand curves are notoriously hard to project and as a result some Oregonians may be deprived of the opportunity to participate in these ventures. The OLCC cannot predict how many people come to Oregon to purchase weed legally. Just look at the dispensaries in Eastern Oregon. They are the largest grossing dispensaries because they are serving people who do not live in Oregon. They are paying into Oregon taxes. This should be maintained.

3. The cannabis tax for housing has not been developed fully. I sat on the M110 Rules Advisory Committee last winter and I can attest that the program is just being rolled out. It takes time to do this equitably. I was very impressed by the staff running the program and have the utmost confidence that they can deliver on the promises made to Oregon voters when they voted to decriminalize drug use and endorse the use of mushrooms for behavioral therapy.

We are on the world leaders in cutting edge of innovation in behavioral health, housing, and decriminalization. This bill will not help this positive momentum.

Please oppose this bill. We do not need to use economic demand models to limit the cannabis tax fund. Demand curves are hard to predict especially at the Eastern borders and this bill would do nothing to stop legal weed from entering states where weed is illegal.