



# Oregon Society of Addiction Medicine

*A Chapter of American Society of Addiction Medicine*

## OFFICERS

### President

Dan Weiner, DO, FASAM

### Vice President

Eowyn Rieke, MD

### Policy Chair

Moxie J. Loeffler, DO, MPH

### Secretary

Katharine Marshall, MD

### Treasurer

Bradley  
Buchheit, MD

February 7, 2022

The Honorable Floyd Prozanski

Chairman, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation

900 Court Street, NE

Salem, Oregon 97031

Re: ORSAM's Opposition to SB1541/HB4016-3

To Whom It May Concern,

We are the Physician Board of the Oregon Society of Addiction Medicine (ORSAM), the state chapter of American Society of Addiction Medicine, and we are writing to voice our opposition to SB1541 and HB4016-3. ORSAM has over one hundred and thirty members who specialize in Addiction Medicine and Behavioral Health.

Fifty-eight percent of Oregonians voted in favor of Measure 110, and the goals of the ballot measure included:

- Making personal non-commercial possession of a controlled substance no more than a Class E violation.
- Establishing a drug addiction treatment and recovery program funded by the state's marijuana tax revenue and state prison savings.

Measure 110 has been lauded as a victory for social justice because Black, Latinx, and Native populations have suffered disproportionately from drug possession charges and incarceration. These groups have also suffered from drug overdose rates that rose more rapidly than for white people even though among ethnic groups, drug use rates are equivalent. Treatment access is a dire need in our state, especially among BIPOC and rural populations. The 2020 ADPC Statewide Strategic Plan is a great tool, but it has not been funded thus far. Patients continue risking their lives waiting over six weeks for inpatient treatment so that they can obtain healthcare to quit heroin, fentanyl, and methamphetamine. Indeed, we rank forty-seventh among states for access to care, 2nd for drug use prevalence, and first for opioid misuse.

SB1541 and HB 4016-3 aim to defund addiction treatment in Oregon by diverting \$150 million in Measure 110 funding to pay for surveillance and prosecution for illegal cannabis cultivation and general funds for policing. We acknowledge that the state legislature may see benefit to such law enforcement funding, but the source of such funding should not undermine a law that voters chose in 2020. They hoped Measure 110 would reverse stigma, lift lifelong burdens from

criminal records, and fund treatment for people with the neurologic disease of addiction. Oregon's drug overdose rates rose 45% over a one-year period ending in April 2021 (compared with a 28% increase nationally. In 2020, more Americans died of drug overdose than ever in our history. We cannot afford to lose Addiction Medicine funding to policing.

Please vote no on SB1541 HB 4016-3. We plan to continue advocating for the success of Measure 110 as voters intended it in 2020 and look forward to working in partnership with you to do so. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration. Our patients deserve no less than our best.

Best Regards,

Oregon Society of Addiction Medicine

Dan Weiner, DO  
President

Eowyn Rieke, MD  
Vice President  
Measure 110 Oversight and Accountability Councilmember

Kate Marshall, MD  
Secretary

Brad Buchheit, MD  
Treasurer

Moxie Loeffler, DO, MPH  
Policy Chair  
(603) 667-3696  
[moxieloeffler@gmail.com](mailto:moxieloeffler@gmail.com)

References:

<https://tinyurl.com/Oregon-NSDUH-2020>

<https://tinyurl.com/NSDUH-2020-SAMHSA-OREGON>

CC: The Honorable Kim Thatcher  
The Honorable Michael Dembrow  
The Honorable Sara Gelser Blouin  
The Honorable Dallas Heard  
The Honorable Dennis Linthicum  
The Honorable James Manning Jr.