

To the Joint Legislative Committee on Addiction and Community Safety

From Eric Samuels, 1217 NW 25th Avenue Portland Oregon

Thank you for considering my written testimony. I have lived in Portland for nearly 20 years and been part of Intel's site selection committee when considering sites for investment. I am currently retired from Intel, working for another company and am a father of a twelve year old daughter. So I write to you from some experience in choosing what locations to bring businesses to and raising a family downtown.

I can say from personal experience that Portland is not currently a safe place to go out with my child. My daughter will not ride her bike in our neighborhood, and she refuses to go to the Target downtown because of the open air drug market and fentanyl use one routinely sees there, and the odd shouting naked person.

Businesses understand waste, and recognize the snarl of local, metro, county and state government absorbing huge taxes and incapable of addressing public safety with all that money.

These perceptions must be corrected for our city to reclaim its reputation as one of America's best run and desirable locations for families and businesses.

I understand drug addicts have rights and the current system does not allow us to commit them against their will, so instead we have committed the rest of the city to their open air insane asylum. This makes no sense and is not compassionate for anyone involved.

I do not believe we should go back to the days of lengthy incarceration or a war on drugs, however with measure 110 we have swung the pendulum too far the other way. I was frankly shocked when I saw it on the ballot and still cannot believe it passed.

We need to add some measure of compassionate but involuntary treatment, backed by the force of the law, and funded by the ample taxes the city and state already collect, to the current approach. Please bring a common sense correction to Measure 110 as soon as possible.

Thank you for accepting my testimony.