

I am a 5<sup>th</sup> generation Portlander. I've never considered living anywhere else until recently. The open drug use, crime, and filth in our once-beautiful city give me feelings of despair and hopelessness. Even my most progressive neighbors are fed up with Portland and talk about moving.

I work in outer SE Portland for a non-profit where youth come for mentoring. I regularly pick up drug paraphernalia, human excrement, and garbage in our parking lot. Our office has been vandalized multiple times and burglarized, at a large cost to us. We had two catalytic converters stolen off the van we use to transport youth. We've been threatened by drug addicts who hang out in our parking lot. Before Measure 110, I could call the police non-emergency and know they would arrive within the hour. I no longer bother.

Yes, drug addicts need help. But Measure 110 has just given them free reign to do in some cases LETHAL amounts of drugs with no consequences. I have heard testimonies of people who say they moved to Oregon because it's so easy to do drugs and live on the streets. Tell me, how many addicts are actually going to choose to get treatment without the threat of punishment? What good is it to give someone a petty fine or pass out a hotline number? We've seen that this approach is not working. We need to use the resources available to our community, including faith-based programs. We need to fund more treatment programs so we have places for people to go.

We need to offer these people a choice: get treatment or go to jail. My cousin was an addict and involved in serious criminal activity until he was put in prison and was able to get clean there. He says it was prison that gave him the chance to turn his life around. He's now been sober for close to 20 years. PLEASE, PLEASE – do what you can to repeal or drastically reform this terrible bill. The future of Portland really does depend on it.

Respectfully,  
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