

Committee: Joint Interim Committee on Addiction and Community Safety Response

Date/Time: December 4th, 2023 at 9:00 am

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Senate District 20
House District 40

As our City's across Oregon have been flooded with an increase of crime, overdose deaths, public nuisance, mental illness and homelessness. I have witnessed the downfall from my surrounding neighborhoods, hospitals to where I work in Southeast Portland.

When measure 110 was introduced and sold to the public in 2020, it was decriminalizing small amounts of drugs and establishing treatment facilities statewide. This is just not happening still in 2024. If you walk the street near where the homeless rest, you will see open air drug use, dealing of drugs, those suffering struggling with mental illness, those struggling while using drugs and a lot of overdoses.

In order to solve the crisis you first need to understand with outreach. I have personally asked multiple individuals if an outreach worker has talked to them, the answer is always no. The system is confusing to everyone that I have spoken to that stay outside my Office in Southeast Portland. Some are forced back on the streets while trying to detox.

Those that are on the front lines of emergency response and hospitals are so flooded, that when my daughter goes to the hospital for her chronic health disease the staff is struggling to keep up. Where I live and where I work children are seeing as they wait for the school bus, out their window, going to the store or playing at the park.

The quality of life for Oregonians has diminished, the overdose deaths have doubled along with a higher drug use. Oregon has failed the citizens with Measure 110 related to decriminalization of possession of drugs and needs to be accountable. We need to act now to change and fix Measure 110.

Sincerely,
Sara Kramer

