

To whom it may concern:

This is my written comment regarding the effect of M110 that I've witnessed. First off, I cannot believe that this measure passed in the first place. There was ZERO planning ahead of time for addicts to access treatment as soon as the measure passed. Failure. Perhaps there could have been a tiered approach to implementation?

I am a lifetime Oregonian, that's half a decade in my case. Seeing "tweaker" activity in my home town of Hillsboro used to be a rare occurrence, now it's everyday commonplace. The lax laws in our state in general, are failing our communities full of everyday working class citizens... the people who actually work to pay taxes for our government to spend. (Don't get me started on M48 re: pre trial release.) With the passage of M110 there is literally zero deterrent or consequence for people to abuse drugs on the street. At least before, they MIGHT be taken into custody by law enforcement and face a misdemeanor charge and sober up for 24-48 hours. And in the case of Washington County, MAY even have access to drug court. Not now. Now their behavior is ignored to fester and escalate. I see people in, what I consider, dire medical and mental conditions daily. It literally sickens me to think that ten years ago, I would have called 911 to get assistance for a person in that condition. Now we all are just supposed to walk by and ignore it.... and maybe even become victims to it if the person in crisis needs to steal my property or attack someone since they're out of their mind. I place that blame and responsibility SQUARELY on lawmakers of this state, who are clearly so short sighted that they go ahead and pass these measures and bills with no regard to community members. I could go on and on, but I won't. I do want to mention a news story I saw the other day about the Uniform Citation form not being "changed" to add the drug assessment phone number and using that as an excuse as to part of M110's failure. I PERSONALLY see the citations that an officer gives to the citee. The police officers literally write the assessment phone number on the citation. That tidbit was not mentioned in the news article. The average citizen wouldn't be aware of that fact. I feel like that information was intentionally left out of the article.

Thank you for your consideration,
Carol Thompson