

Committee Members,

Measure 110 has to go, this has been a failure not just for individual communities in Oregon, but for the whole state. I don't know of one community in the state that hasn't been impacted negatively from M110. I have been in law enforcement for 20 years. I remember what it was like prior to M110. This measure had a lot of unforeseen consequences. It was like throwing a rock in a body of water and not knowing how far those ripples would go and who they would impact. As a person who has been on the front lines of the negative effects of M110, I have seen the deaths, the mental illness, the homelessness, and the families and friendships destroyed from M110. The cries from family members when they ask law enforcement to do something to help save their loved one. All of it is very heartbreaking. The pain they feel when we tell them we can not save them. We can not arrest them and get them off the streets, because it is no longer a crime to have a user amount of drugs. We can not put them in front of a court that mandates them to go to treatment, why...because the state took that tool from law enforcement.

The bottom line is this, the way M110 was sold to the voters of this state is not what has been happening. No one is getting treatment, and no one is being held accountable for the bad choices they make in their lives. M110 allows for those who have a drug addiction to further their drug addiction with no consequence. It seems to me that it should be pretty clear to most people that when someone does something illegal or immoral, there should be a consequence for those actions. Something has to have a profound impact on them to change that behavior. As a child growing up, there were consequences for bad behavior, whether that was at home, in a courtroom, school, or even in church. Minimizing the bad behavior that M110 allows is not the answer to fixing the many ripples that have come from M110. Measure 110 must be repealed.

As a law enforcement professional who has been on the front lines of the impacts of M110, I have seen firsthand the mental illness that has derived from the chronic use of drugs. I have faced subjects who have had weapons and threatened the public, law enforcement, which includes myself. This behavior has increased significantly since the passing of M110. This is not only dangerous to the community but also to law enforcement. People fear for their safety. Not just those that go to the grocery store and pray they can just get their groceries and get home safely but those in law enforcement also fear for their safety, not just their physical safety, but the safety of their career path and their own mental health. Since the passing of M110 law enforcement recruitment is significantly down. Because police do not want to die doing this job. They want to help, they want to make a difference. They want to go home to their families or friends at the end of the day. The mental behavior that has manifested from the chronic use of drugs not only impacts the user, but it also impacts the families, friends and also the law enforcement officer that has to face that individual in whatever erratic behavior that subject may be exhibiting at the time that law enforcement officer is responding to, which often includes violent behavior toward another person, toward law enforcement or even toward themselves.

I would argue that M110 has exacerbated the user's addiction, which has exacerbated homelessness. When someone has a strong addiction and is allowed to continue on that path with no consequences, this impacts their ability to hold a job, pay bills, have a home, hold a driver's license, or even own anything of value. Nothing else matters, only the addiction. Not family, nor friends, not even their own children matter. The only thing that matters is feeding the addiction. Feeding the addiction after they have lost everything they own, opens the door to lying, being deceitful toward those that love them. Begging, borrowing, and then stealing. Stealing starts out small, then slowly increases to bigger and bigger crimes, which include robbery, assault, weapons offenses, and many other related

crimes. This is not the future for Oregon, this is not the future we want for our children, or our communities.

Lastly, I have seen firsthand the deaths that have come from the use of drugs. I have investigated homicides, overdoses, and suicides. I have had to go tell loved ones their loved one has died. The mental toll that has on loved ones is beyond words. It is something they have to live with for the rest of their lives. It is something law enforcement has to remember for the rest of their lives. The choices the addict makes just to chase that high has a ripple effect that is also unforeseen and M110 exacerbates those bad choices with little to no consequence.

Thank you.



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