

I misguidedly voted for Measure 110 - the so-called "Drug Addiction Treatment and Recovery Act" to decriminalize drug use in Oregon. I believed that through funding of a social safety net, we could collectively help Oregonians afflicted by drug use disorders to receive the help they need through an encouraging offering of treatment.

However, I now am urgently asking for Measure 110 to be REPEALED. Our state was totally unprepared for the consequences of this legislation. We do not have the resources - infrastructure or financial - to provide the services that this law intended. Instead, without any legal deterrent, we have all witnessed the inhumanity that has resulted from allowing the current drug crisis to blossom into devastating problems on a scale that we could not have imagined several years ago.

What I have witnessed in the last year in and near downtown is absolutely horrifying and heart-breaking. Our fellow human beings are suffering. Drug use has absolutely sky-rocketed as have all the problems associated with it - increased crime, people unable to care for themselves in their drug-induced hazes, vulnerable, health concerns related to human feces, actual fentanyl smoke being inhaled by pedestrians on our city streets just to name a few of the problems. This Measure has resulted in drug users migrating to Portland only compounding the level of the problems we had several years ago.

Measure 110 has been a total failure - a failure to improve the health of Oregonians and a failure to reduce societal costs due to drug use.

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