

Dear Committee on Addiction and Community Safety Response,

I am writing to comment on the public hearing in regards to Measure 110. I urge you to repeal Measure 110 and consider alternative legislation to restore public safety.

As a longtime resident of Portland, Oregon (from 2007-2022), I saw first hand the results of Measure 110. My Northeast neighborhood between 2021 and 2023 rapidly deteriorated as I witness substantial increases of public substance abuse, homelessness, gang violence, and petty theft. Concerned with safety, my family completely discontinued shopping and theatre trips to inner/downtown Portland, and loathed the medical appointments that require inner city hospital visits. Finally in 2022, after feeling increasingly unsafe in our own neighborhood, we decided to sell our house in Northeast Portland and move more rurally to avoid the disturbing trends of the urban city. Today, when I visit my friends in NE Portland, I continue to be alarmed by its continued decline. But, it does not have to stay this way.

It is important for our state government to recognize the negative impact of Measure 110. While its intent was noble, its practical culminating effect has been detrimental to our communities and not beneficial to drug-addicted residents, who are not receiving the benefits or recovery counseling that the measure promoted. Measure 110 was a mistake.

Our Oregon legislative body has a responsibility to acknowledge the measure's failures and act to correct them. We need to restore safety in our neighborhood by allowing law enforcement to eliminate open drug use, reduce the spread of harmful addictive drugs, and use jail sentencing when appropriate. Our community and our next generation deserve to inherit a city that they do not desire to flee from, but look with hope towards a productive community that fosters health and safety.

Please repeal Measure 110.

Thank you kindly,

Amy Lyda

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