

Dear Senators Liber, Knopp, Prozanski and Representatives Kropf, Goodwin, Mannix, Nosse, Valderrama,

I am writing to express my disappointment with the social impact resulting from the implementation of Measure 110. My family and I live outside of the city of Portland. Prior to Measure 110, downtown Portland felt like a safe place to visit and my family would attend many events there. Now that people are allowed to use drugs openly, the city is no longer a place we are comfortable visiting, especially at night. This, of course, is frustrating for our family but above that, the level of human suffering that we witness when we see what is going on downtown is overwhelmingly sad. I know that many people felt the Measure 110 would bring health and healing to people by offering those who are being held by the chains of addiction access to health care and rehab resources. Unfortunately, my perception is that even more people are becoming addicted to substances due to the easy accessibility to drugs and the lack of legal penalties for using them. I believe that making drug use illegal and implementing uncomfortable consequences for those who use drugs is compassionate because it will help addicted individuals be motivated to seek help as well as make people think twice before using drugs in the first place.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Cheri Richtenburg