

I am writing on behalf of my family who live in Bend, OR. We have experienced first hand the glaring consequences of Measure 110. We live in a neighborhood that backs up to Forest Service land, as well as owning property in Bend near Greenwood Ave.

The drastic increase in unsafe homeless situations over the time since 110 was passed is blatant and distressing. The numbers of homeless have dramatically increased, but even more problematic is the behavior that is now happening.. It is no longer safe to drive on the road behind our house due to aggressive homeless people; we are frequently disturbed by shouting and angry words of people who are clearly not sober; I have had to change my walking routes due to frequent open approaches by homeless who are insistent and pushy. The homeless camps are full of exploding tanks, dogs barking, filth, needles, garbage and people who are not able to think clearly or act safely.

At our office building in town, we are increasingly getting homeless who sleep in our parking lot, and are so under the influence, that twice in the last two months, they have been nearly run over by cars coming in to park in the dark early morning hours. We have experienced sharply increased vandalism, from words on walls, to cutting through the roof in the parking garage to access electricity, to stealing anything not bolted down... and again, it is obvious that they are sick and not sober.

I was recently visiting the east coast and saw several articles in the national news talking about all the increase in crime and homelessness that has been a result of Measure 110 and highlighting the stories with pictures of our homeless camps. The rest of the country is seeing us as the experimenters of a measure that obviously went very wrong resulting in more drug use and attracting drug users from all over the country.

I was embarrassed and shocked that the rest of the country clearly sees the connection - just as we normal citizens living in Oregon see the connection - and yet the state seems to deny any cause and effect, and any culpability.

PLEASE revoke this measure. It was ignorantly and poorly conceived and is clearly not helping either those addicted to drugs or normal citizens who pay all the taxes and bear the results.

Sincerely,

Sharon Wilkens