

It has been said that "the road to hell is paved with good intentions" and while I am sure that the people who sponsored this ballot measure had good intentions to reduce harm to vulnerable people it has not turned out that way. In fact the unintended consequences have resulted in a public health crisis (more addictions, overdoses, and deaths), a serious degradation of the urban environment in our cities (open drug usage, crime to support addictions, and more homelessness), and a national reputation as a dangerous and failing state. One of the other consequences that can not be quantified is how many drug users were attracted to move here by the reputation the state gained as a haven for drug use and virtually anything goes.

It is true that Oregonians overwhelmingly supported measure 110 at the ballot box. But I believe that if a re-vote were held today the results would come out the opposite.

I recommend that measure 110 be repealed but if the legislature is going to try and reform rather than repeal Measure 110 I would encourage that you outlaw all public drug usage, allow the police to confiscate drugs from users on the street and re-criminalize the possession of meth and opioids to allow the police some leverage to get users into treatment and a threat to get users to identify their dealers. Anything less than this is window dressing that will not produce the results we desperately need. If real reform is not accomplished by the legislature I would be part of the grassroots citizen effort to fix the problem through ballot initiative.

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