

Measure 110 has been a colossal failure. I believe there is no better place to see this than in Portland where I live.

I was scheduled to speak to Salem Monday morning. I got up at 6am, drove an hour to the Capitol, and sat in the hearing for four hours only to be told I may not get a chance to testify. It is disrespectful and irresponsible for you to continue to allow people to register for live testimony when you won't allow the time.

All of your chosen presenters - who had ample time to speak - had a narrative except for one who appeared to go off script. Chair Leiber cut him off saying he went off topic. I felt like I was listening to presentations from service providers who want to keep measure 110 funds moving their direction. Perhaps when evaluating various testimony it would be helpful to disclose to the public who speaking works for an entity who is currently receiving money from measure 110. I hope we could actually be that transparent someday.

We can use buzzwords all we want, but we haven't made progress with Measure 110 and the public knows it. We have lost footing. Measure 110 is an attempt to expand failed harm reduction policies. Measure 110 - diverted nearly 300 million in cannabis taxes from Schools, cities, counties, state police, and behavioral health services. That money went instead to things like foil, pipes, and recovery gyms and lots of peer staff that aren't asked to provide metrics. It did not go to detox facilities.

We talked about a lot about war on drugs Monday. Historically the crack and OxyContin epidemics showed hard drugs destroy communities with increased, robbery, auto theft, retail theft, assaults, high unemployment and businesses fail in larger numbers. Sounds - lot like Portland today doesn't it?

Governing policies have eliminated natural consequences of drug use. We give on the ready new tents, tarps, clothes, needles, pipes and foil, and cell phones. There is no reason for an addict to seek treatment. I have been in police ridealongs and can tell you officers don't write the tickets for open drug use. It is 15 minutes they don't want to spare.

Our streets are unsafe. The cartel is here - Portland is the best place to do business if you are a drug dealer. If you are a dealer there is no consequences for your customers using illegal drugs and they don't get taken off the streets. We have human trafficking and car theft crime rings. Women are being victimized nightly.

The solutions I continue to hear from your panel and experts are more harm reduction and housing. We cannot sustain the government giving to an increasing number of dependent people. It isn't good for them, it isn't good for the whole.

I encourage this panel and the citizens in the state of Oregon to advocate for mandatory treatment for those arrested for crimes who are actively using drugs. And to act with alacrity providing detox and secondary treatment centers.

Angela Todd