

Co-Chairs Lieber and Kropf, and Members of the Joint Interim Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response,

Monday's hearing confirmed that our communities need real solutions, real safety, and real healing when it comes to addressing the overdose and addiction crisis.

I am submitting a public comment to show support for rapidly expanding treatment services in Oregon. As you heard on Monday, the lack of a full continuum of care is a root cause for the problem in our state and people, communities, and families across our state cannot wait any longer.

The situation is urgent and we need action. We need effective solutions that can be done now to bring healing, not harm, to Black and Brown Oregonians, the people harmed the most by the failed war on drugs, as well as rural communities and people experiencing homelessness.

I'm submitting a public comment because I believe our leaders need to do more - and fast - to address the addiction crisis across our state.

We need:

- Housing
- Treatment services of all kinds
- More peer supports
- Street outreach and non-police emergency response to get people connected to care
- No going backwards to recriminalizing addiction and not returning to the harmful war on drugs that disproportionately harmed Black and Brown Oregonians

Recriminalization is a red herring and controversial and divisive proposals to repeal Measure 110 are not the answer. We can't arrest our way out of this. Nothing will change without more and better treatment options.

I urge you to listen to the addiction experts and people with lived experience.

Our communities are counting on you to do the right thing.

Sincerely,
Janna Tessman

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I am an Alcohol and Drug Counselor at Northwest Family Services working with youth in Clackamas County. We need more treatment options for all levels of care. The youth we serve need:

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Sincerely,
Michelle Horan

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Sincerely,
Sarah Kellogg

Co-Chairs Lieber and Kropf, and Members of the Joint Interim Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response,

Monday's hearing confirmed that our communities need real solutions, real safety, and real healing when it comes to addressing the overdose and addiction crisis. As you heard on Monday, the lack of a full continuum of care is a root cause for the problem. It's time for people to get up from behind desks, mobilize the help that's needed! Stop depending on law enforcement to do the work of healthcare providers and case workers. Please don't have Oregon return to jail as the best way to solve our problems of addiction and mental illness.

There is no reason we have to accept flagrant public drug use; society can set boundaries around the issue of 'drug use' without repealing 110. Citizens have already voted! Stop the repeal and create policies to support decriminalization that work. Oregon needs more boots on the ground, get teams of advocates out with proper healthcare options and resources to end the nightmare for families who need real solutions not jail time for their brother, sister, husband, wife, daughter, son or friend caught in the jaws of addiction.

I am submitting a public comment to show support for rapidly expanding treatment services in Oregon. People, communities, and families across our state cannot wait any longer. The situation is urgent and we need action. We need effective solutions that can be done now to bring healing, not harm, to all the people impacted by the failed "War on Drugs". The fact is Black and Brown folks are caught in the web of the drug subculture due to economic incentives as well as lack of addiction services. It's time to change the way addiction is viewed, it can happen to anyone!

We need:

- Treatment services of all kinds, including outreach to people on the street.
- More peer supports -- these are the people that can 'walk the talk', give them support, so they can provide better outreach.
- Street outreach is critical component, as well as, non-police emergency response to get people connected to care
- Housing (even pallette shelter villages can help!) People need rest, they need safety, heat, & food to be open to treatment or drugs fill the void.
- No going backwards to recriminalizing addiction. Do not return us to the harmful "War on Drugs", it is a failed approach, it never worked. It has caused communities of Black and Brown folks the worst nightmare of all. There is a solid economic incentive between drug dealing and addiction that is clearly lacking not being admitted. Most of all Black and Brown communities need support to educate and support young people vulnerable to the 'street lifestyle' involving drugs. Repealing Measure 110 will not going to change anything to solve these issues.

Recriminalization is a red herring along with divisive proposals to repeal Measure 110. Going backwards will not work, so please! We can't arrest our way out of this! Nothing will change without more, smarter, better treatment options. Funding the various education, prevention, and treatment needs are the only way to end the addiction highway.

I urge you to listen to the addiction treatment experts and people who haved lived the experience. They are the ones to guide you, but you are responsible to provide the resources, the funding that is critically necessary to make progress. Measure 110 is not the problem, lack of mobilization of proper resources and making a good solid plan to implement care for people who slip into addiction is the real problem. Stop blaming Measure 110 for what the voters so clearly have voiced that they know, drug use is a healthcare problem, it should not be a criminal issue. Drug dealing on the other hand is still illegal. Police should focus resources on that not the little guy living on the street who is addicted, that is an easy target and those people are not the real problem. Give the person on the street proper care and we won't have any more drug dealers.

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Sincerely,
Linda Yellin

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Sincerely,
John Schoonover

Co-Chairs Lieber and Kropf, and Members of the Joint Interim Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response,

I am submitting a public comment to express my support for rapidly expanding treatment services in Oregon. I understand that testimony on Monday pointed to the lack of a full continuum of care as a root cause for the problem in our state. People, communities, and families across our state cannot wait any longer.

The news every day tells us the situation is urgent and we need action. We need effective solutions that can be implemented to bring healing, not harm, to Black and Brown Oregonians. The war on drugs failed, in cities, rural communities and particularly among people experiencing homelessness.

I'm submitting a public comment because I believe our leaders need to do more - and fast - to address the addiction crisis across our state.

We need:

- Street outreach and non-police emergency response to get people connected to care
- Housing
- Treatment services of all kinds
- More peer supports
- Not recriminalizing addiction and not returning to the harmful war on drugs that disproportionately harmed Black and Brown Oregonians

Divisive proposals to repeal Measure 110 aren't the answer. We can't arrest our way out of this. Nothing will change without more and better treatment options. I urge you to listen to the addiction experts and people with lived experience.

Do the right thing.

Sincerely,
DAVID PORTER

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Sincerely,
Chrissy Pettey

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Melanie Pagan

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We need housing, treatment services of all kinds, more peer supports, street outreach and non-police emergency response to get people connected to care, and no going backwards to recriminalizing addiction and not returning to the harmful war on drugs that disproportionately harmed Black and Brown Oregonians.

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