

**Overview of  
House Bill 3610:  
Task Force on  
Alcohol  
Addiction,  
Prevention, and  
Pricing  
Significance**

December 11, 2004

Presentation: **Representative  
Tawna Sanchez**, Chair of House  
Bill 3610 on Task Force on Alcohol  
Pricing and Addiction Services.

# HB 3610 Legislative Days Presentation

*Representative Tawna Sanchez, Chair*  
*December 11, 2024*



Overview of House Bill 3610 and its Significance



Purpose & Objective of the TF on Alcohol Addiction and Pricing



Work Plan Review



Individual Policy Recommendations Summary



Next Steps

## **Work Plan:** ***Process to Finalizing and Adopting Report***



### **Purpose of the Work Plan:**

- Establish a structured approach for the Task Force
- Outlines key responsibilities and mandates

### **Meeting Agendas and Objectives:**

- Specifying the required issues to be discussed
- Agenda items revised to reflect evolving and new requests

### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

- Assignment of roles to avoid duplication

### **Communication and Transparency:**

- Audio and video recordings of each meeting provides context for each meeting

# **Requirements: The measure specifies that Task Force members shall**

- **Study the following issues:**
  - (a) Alcohol addiction and alcohol addiction prevention;
  - (b) The distribution of resources for alcohol addiction treatment;
  - (c) The current overall funding for alcohol addiction treatment programs, including the levels of funding for programs by the state and local governments, existing metrics used to measure effectiveness of funding and of programs and the amount that community care organizations spend on alcohol addiction treatment;
  - (d) The cost to this state of alcohol addiction;
  - (e) The benefits and drawbacks of imposing taxes on malt beverages and wine; and
  - (f) Additional funding options for alcohol addiction treatment, including modifying the current distribution of alcohol tax revenue and increasing taxes on alcohol, and the potential economic impact of tax increases on relevant industries.

## **NO consensus on Recommendations**

- Individual member policy opinions or recommendations for legislative consideration
- The opinions are based on the provisions in HB 3610 outlined in the work plan
- Summary is based on review each response from Task Force members

# Summary of the Top Three Individual Policy Opinion Recommendations



Re-allocation of Current Resources  
for Treatment and Prevention



Need for Additional Studies, Better  
Data Collection and Monitoring on  
Alcohol Addiction, Prevention,  
Treatment and Recovery



Benefits and Drawbacks of  
Imposing Wine, Beer and Cider  
Taxes

**1. Recommendation:**  
Re-Allocate how current revenue from alcohol sales is being distributed towards addiction services without putting financial strain on small businesses

- **Re-allocation of current resources towards**
  - Develop and implement target training and education programs for staff working in rural areas
  - Funding for communities where individuals face barriers in accessing alcohol prevention and treatment services
  - Prioritize research on the social determinants of alcohol addiction
  - Expand access to treatment services, mental health support, and public treatment services especially in underserved communities
  - Fund programs with proven success in reducing addiction rates

## **2. Recommendation: Need for Additional Studies, Improve Better Data Collection and Monitoring on Alcohol Addiction, Prevention, Treatment and Recovery**

Recommendation highlights the gaps in data collection and real-time monitoring of substance use disorder cases and treatment availability

- Integrating health and criminal justice systems for better data collection practices and sharing to monitor program outcomes.
- Developing real-time reporting models that track substance use trends and overdose incidence, as well as show available treatment beds.
- Using enhanced data for better coordination of care among different service providers and to help inform treatment strategies and allocate resources effectively.



### **3. Benefits and Drawbacks of Imposing Wine, Beer and Cider Taxes**

- While the task force did not endorse a specific tax policy, they urge decision-makers to carefully weigh the potential public health benefits against the economic implications of tax increases.

# Drawbacks of Imposing Taxes on Wine, Beer and Cider

- Alcohol is the third largest source of revenue for the state alcohol
- Sales are down across categories, and teen drinking is at historic lows.
- Use existing alcohol tax and mark-up revenue to ensure they are adequately enforcing Oregon's numerous alcohol control laws
- Increase taxes may not effectively curb alcohol use and could disproportionately hit low-income consumers already struggling with access to services
- These members recommend reallocating existing revenues toward proven substance use disorder programs instead raising new taxes

# **Benefits of imposing taxes: Funding for Public Health Intervention, Education, Awareness and Prevention**

- Increase public education and awareness campaigns that call attention to the risks associated with alcohol misuse
- Collaborate with schools, community organizations, and local government providers to ensure broad outreach, early intervention, and prevention
- Support an inventory of what school districts are already required to do under current law to determine if any additional efforts are needed
- An increase would reflect the true cost of alcohol related harms, which include health care and social services
- Fund recovery services to improve access to essential services
- Increase potential impact to discourage related harms