

Submitter: Veronica Poklemba
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure: HB2089

HB 2089 is the wrong way to go and threatens the implementation of Measure 110 just as it is getting started. HB 2089 would significantly decrease the funding for addiction services that providers have already been granted just as new programs are beginning. This is unconscionable for the people in crisis who are desperately seeking services, providers who are hiring staff and opening new programs to meet that need, and goes against the will of the voters who continue to support Measure 1110's public health approach to substance use in Oregon.

I worked in behavioral health for my entire career. It was heartbreaking to have to tell desperate people that there was no place I could send them to get the help they needed, and witness people repeatedly end up in crisis situations - such as frequent trips to the emergency room; which is a very expensive way to provide support to people with behavioral health issues. The state of Oregon is on the verge of beginning to meet the needs of many people who are citizens of our state and deserve the opportunity for active, productive lives.