

February 7, 2023

House Committee on Revenue Oregon State Legislature 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: Testimony to Strongly Oppose HB 2089

Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chairs Reschke and Walters, Members of the Committee,

My name is Isabela Villarreal, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of Next Up Action Fund. Our mission is to build political power with diverse young people to achieve a more just and equitable Oregon. As such, Next Up strongly supported the passage of Measure 110 in 2020 because we understood that this significant and necessary investment into community well-being would change and save lives.

Thus, we are writing today to strongly oppose HB 2089 which would defund and disrupt the critical, life-saving, and voter-approved Measure 110. The best way to improve public safety is to continue growing Measure 110 programs, not cutting them.

HB 2089 is a perfect example of how we got to be 50th in the nation in services. HB 2089 would take more than \$40 million away from currently funded Measure 110 overdose prevention and addiction recovery services. A \$40 million cut is equivalent to cutting 50 percent of current service funding from Lane, Washington, Jackson, Union, Morrow, Umatilla, Sherman, Wasco, Baker, Grant, and Gilliam Counties. When you consistently get a failing grade it's time to do things differently, not revert back to an underfunded, broken system.

Ultimately, ripping Measure 110 funding away from our communities would be cruel. Measure 110 has brought hope to Oregon families and communities struggling with substance use. By providing unprecedented funding to pay for treatment and lifting criminal penalties for use, Measure 110 is creating a system where people can get the help they need without losing their jobs, their children, or their dreams for the future. HB 2089 would cut those services.

We all agree that funding was delayed too long. But now \$302 million in funding addiction services in every county in the state. People with substance use are able to get help when and where they need it. We cannot cut those services now.

I strongly urge you to stand with Oregon voters and the families in Oregon who are counting on you to protect Measure 110 funding for their loved ones. We must solve our addiction crisis and we can't go backward.

The Oregon legislature must honor the will of the voters, who made their wishes clear in 2020 and again in 2022; and as such, Next Up Action Fund strongly urges you to oppose HB 2089.

Thank you,

Isabela Villarreal

Policy and Communications Director