

Hello my name is Brandi Fogle I work for Max's Mission in Josephine County as a CRM/PSS and I head up the office in this county, I am also a person in long term recovery. I am in Opposition of HB 2089. Max's Mission is a small nonprofit that does naloxone distribution, harm reduction services, referrals and peer services for our participants. People we serve come from all walks of life and all have something in common; drugs and/or addiction have affected their life whether it is themselves, someone they know or their community.

The goal of harm reduction is to save lives, protect the health and well-being of both people using drugs and their communities. Harm reduction respects basic human rights, treats people with dignity without judgement to condone or condemn the individuals we serve or their family, friends, and community. People that use harm reduction services are also 5 times more likely to get help for their addiction.

Harm reduction is a vital part of recovery, a large number of individuals suffering from addiction use these services on a regular basis. It is the first step in feeling better, living better, or at the very least staying alive to have a chance to make a better choice for one's self. This first step begins the journey of recovery that starts with trusting another human, themselves and caring for and loving themselves again. Asking for help no matter what it is for is the hardest thing to do.

So here I am asking for your help, the help of this committee to keep measure 110 funding as it is, the fate of so many in recovery, seeking recovery and working in recovery rests in your hands right now, I hope with all my being that the help me and my fellow addicts are asking for and asking to keep is answered in the form of you voting against HB 2089.

So many agencies have come together to help one another and the people struggling in our communities through the funds measure 110 has provided it can only keep getting better from here. Help us to continue to save lives in Oregon, to continue to show compassion, and love to those in need and continue to have the services they need when they need them offered and given right away. We are just at the beginning of what is to happen for the better from the funds we only this July started to receive to do the good work we all do. Please do not cut us off at the ankles before we can begin to walk. We are steadily helping pull down the barriers to addiction recovery and education with this funding. It is imperative it stays as it is.

thank You for your time and hearing my testimony, Sincerely Brandi Fogle