

February 9, 2023

House Committee on Revenue Oregon State Legislature 900 Court St. NE, Room 160 Salem, OR 97301

RE: City of Portland Support of HB 2089

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

The City of Portland, Cannabis Program, respectfully writes this testimony in support of HB 2089 to redistribute a larger allocation of marijuana tax revenue to cities and counties.

Dan Ryan, Commissioner

Portland, OR 97204 503-823-4519

Michael Montoya, *Interim Director* 1120 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 114

portlandoregon.gov/civic/cannabis

With the passing of Measure 91, a clear direction was established of how marijuana revenues were to be directed to support schools, mental health, addiction services, and public safety. With the passing of Measure 110, it is felt that significantly more addiction services are needed, however, those services have not been readily available, and this coincides with a lack of transparency as to where and how that additional revenue allocated to addiction and mental health services has been spent.

With support of passing HB 2089, additional funds being sent to cities and counties, should also have a clear direction of how the revenues are distributed. The Cannabis Program does not feel that any of these funds should go into the general fund, nor should a large portion of it be distributed to law enforcement without establishing it being directly used to protect the cannabis businesses that are reeling in hardship due to increased vandalism and criminal activity. Any monies received from marijuana tax revenues should be reinvested back into the community, support economic development, equity initiatives, and education.

We fully support and understand the importance of mental health and addiction services, however, that should not be the central focus of marijuana revenues. We need to continue to invest in the children and the communities they are raised in to prevent addictions early on.

Respectfully,

Christina Coursey Interim Manager

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City of Portland, Cannabis Program



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