

Submitter: Jamyn Gavello

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure: SB1065

I am a social worker who has been working in a county methadone clinic for four years. The individuals most successful in their attempts at recovery are those with supportive, sober family who can provide access to housing and jobs, access to childcare, and a support system. That is a very rare individual. The keys to stability on methadone include those with stable housing and a decent paycheck, as well as a routine and a way to build their self-worth and re-engage in society. Employment not only provide financial security and routine, it provides a way to connect with and interact with people who are hard-working and engaged in the society. Any laws that inhibit people in recovery from obtaining employment are destabilizing to that individual, their offspring, their families, and the larger society as a whole. There is a factory employer in Eugene that does not bar people based on drug use history and these jobs have been incredibly helpful for individuals seeking a steady paycheck and to prove their ability to re-engage in the society. When a new patient starts methadone we can point them towards this factory and it is hugely helpful.