

March 28, 2023

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice-Chairs Nelson and Goodwin, members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care,

My name is Tera Hurst; I am the Executive Director of the Health Justice Recovery Alliance. We are a statewide advocacy organization that represents more than 75 community-based organizations across the state with deep knowledge and experience working to serve and strengthen local communities.

HJRA was part of the wide variety of stakeholders that worked to improve Measure 110 implementation policies and practices, along with law enforcement, the judicial branch, the Oregon Health Authority and others from across the state. We appreciate Rep. Nosse's leadership in bringing the work group together.

Our organization strongly supports HB 2513- hope and recovery bill. This bill strengthens the state's oversight and accountability over Measure 110 funds, while keeping faith with the Oregon voters who called for a public health approach to addiction services over criminalization with passage of Measure 110 in 2020.

Measure 110 was fully implemented last November with the full distribution of M110 grant funds to more than 160 addiction and recovery service providers in every part of the state. The Oregon Health Authority has determined that more than 60,000 Oregonians have already received services funded by Measure 110 and that number is increasing daily.

One of the most important things HB 2513 does is to clearly define the roles and responsibilities of the Oregon Health Authority and those of the volunteers of the Oversight and Accountability Council. This will improve the grant process and reduce confusion; it will also reduce delays in grant allocations and give both providers and local communities more certainty over the availability of addiction services.

HB 2513 will improve the state's implementation of these lifesaving services and provide Oregon voters with real solutions and help for themselves, their families and their communities struggling with addiction.

Sincerely,

Tera Hurst  
On behalf of the Health Justice Recovery Alliance

