

Submitter: Malia Scharer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure: HB2395

Dear Chair Patterson, Vice Chair Hayden, and members of the committee,

My name is Malia Scharer, and I am a law student at Willamette University College of Law, in Salem. I am writing this testimony to express my support for HB 2395 A.

Over the past years, I have seen the effect that the opioid crisis has had on our communities throughout Oregon. People are suffering, not only from addiction but lack of access to treatment and harm reduction resources. This bill will expand access to life-saving opioid antagonists, decriminalize tools for harm reduction, and allow for better data collection related to Oregon's opioid crisis. I believe that this multifaceted approach is necessary not only to help people suffering from drug addiction but also to improve our communities on a broader level by lessening the strain on our healthcare system. For these reasons, I fully support the passing of HB 2395 A.