

This testimony is on behalf of the Multnomah Democrats' Criminal Justice Study Group, which supports sensible legislation to promote justice. We strongly support HB 2513, and here is why:

We know that addiction should be treated as a health issue and not as a crime. An essential way to reverse the drug crisis in our communities is to provide treatment without criminalizing users. That is why we want the successful implementation of Measure 110.

We appreciate the work of many stakeholders that has gone into crafting HB 2513 under the leadership of Rep. Rob Nosse. We want to ensure that Oregon increases the availability of extensive services in local communities all over the state, that these services will be funded, and that there is appropriate oversight and reporting about the program, so that all people seeking substance use care and other related assistance will be able to access it. HB 2513 lays out the details about how this can be done and how Oregon will be a leader in successfully addressing the addiction issue.