

Submitter: Beth Morey
On Behalf of: Oregon citizens
Committee: Joint Committee on Addiction and Community Safety Response
Measure: HB4036

Whether we support or oppose decriminalizing possession of a controlled substance is frankly much less the issue today in Oregon. The bigger issue is the influx of non-Oregonians taking advantage of our creative approach to helping our own citizens. Measure 110 has made Oregon a haven for drug users and drug sellers nationwide. 2020 voters had hearts of empathy toward fellow residents when passing this measure. What voters were not prepared for was the influx of non-Oregonians taking advantage of our compassion. Oregonians cannot financially shoulder the care and treatment of other states' citizens who see Oregon as beacon of opportunity for illicit drug behaviors.

What would make our state less attractive to this inrush is similar consequences as other states - consequences like Drug Courts with mandatory court appearances and frequent drug testing, and consequences more impactful in nature than a \$100 fine.

Oregon legislators and residents face financial decisions of either increased taxes or decreased services for each and every drug user we attempt to help with the ideology of measure 110. Minimizing these treatment expenses greatly relates to reducing the inrush. The inrush is reduced by making our state no more attractive to reside in as a drug user than their current state.

Living amongst this growing segment of the population has become frightening. Measure 110's lack of consequences has made the drug user's behavior brazen. We must make our state less attractive to nationwide drug users. Please help us deter out-of-state offenders – which will lessen the number of users we can help - by reforming or repealing Measure 110.

Thank you,
Beth Morey