

**Dr. Angela Carter; testimony for the 02/07/2024 Joint Committee On
Addiction and Community Safety Response regarding HB 4002**

Position: Oppose

Data collection and evaluation are certainly essential to understanding the substance use crisis in Oregon, but the legislation must give funding and staff to this proposition. OHA staff are already greatly overextended and lack capacity to do any justice to this request without appropriate resources.

Also, why reinvent the wheel when a data collection system already exists? A team of 50 OHA staff in Health Policy and Analytics, community subject matter experts, and Measure 110 council members worked 9 months to build a comprehensive and robust data collection strategy and tools to evaluate the efficacy of the Substance Use Treatment and Recovery Program, but these tools were disallowed for use by OHA leaders at the time. It was scrapped in favor of a data collection strategy that did not meet the bare minimum legal requirements of SB 755. It is impossible to know the effects of the Measure 110 program based on this decision to scrap the data collection program. Because the current data collection system does not provide the state with significantly useful information on the program outcomes, it is impossible to evaluate the efficacy of the program. If the legislative bodies are basing their decision to attempt repeal of Measure 110 on what data the state is collecting, they are using bad data. It would be more cost effective and legally prudent to SB 755 for the state to utilize the data system already developed to evaluate what is currently in place than to begin a new project.