



Salem Chamber

Convener | Catalyst | Champion

February 7, 2024

Joint Committee on Addiction and Community Safety Response
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Testimony in support of HB 4036 and SB 1555

Dear Co-Chairs Lieber & Kropf and Members of the Committee,

At the Salem Area Chamber of Commerce, we believe in helping businesses prosper in order that our entire community may thrive. During the December Legislative Committee Days, we had the opportunity to come before this Committee and share the results of a survey from Salem's business community. Our members reported:

- 60% of respondents have experienced open-market drug use near their business.
- 100% have experienced one of the following in the last 24 months:
 - Trespassing
 - Property Damage/Vandalism
 - Theft
 - Loss of sales revenue
 - Increase in garbage and trash
- 75% have had monetary damage to their property ranging to \$10,000 per incident.
- 74% believe Measure 110 has decreased the quality of life in Salem

We know that drug addiction, homelessness, and crime have soared in recent years, and in particular since the passage of Measure 110. Communities, including Salem, have suffered and too many lives have been lost. Reform for Measure 110 must include an increase in penalties for possession and/or public use of a controlled substance and a swift expansion of treatment accessibility to a greater number of people.

We ask for your support of the elements of HB 4036 and SB 1555 that will help Salem, Oregon's Capital City, and other communities around the state be a place where people and businesses can flourish.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Hoffert, IOM
Chief Operating Officer
Salem Area Chamber of Commerce

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Chief Executive Officer

Tom Hoffert
Salem Area Chamber of Commerce