

Chairs Lieber and Kropf members of the committee for the record, My name is Wade Calkins I am a Parent mentor with the family nurturing center in Jackson and Josephine County. I am a person in long term recovery. I have been completely sober since 2016. Before I was sober, I spent about 18 months going in and out of jail. I would get caught with a small quantity of heroin and meth. I would usually spend anywhere from 24 hours to 48 hours incarcerated. I would then be released in my most desperate condition. It usually would be after midnight and before dawn. My body would be having withdrawal symptoms, and my mind would be obsessing about drugs.

In this state I would be willing to do anything to acquire more substances. My routine would be to leave jail and wait for hard working individuals to warm up their cars in the mornings so I could steal them to sell in the next county over. I believe to this day that if I had someone like a peer to help walk along side me through the system I was trying to navigate, I would have found success much sooner than I did.

On April 7, 2016, I was arrested for the last time. I went to arraignment the next morning and was told by the judge that I would not be getting out this time until all my cases were resolved. I was looking at a substantial amount of prison time but needed help not incarceration. I expressed a desire to my attorney to enter some kind of treatment court program and did. From there I was able to access the minimal services that were available in my county and have some sort of success.

My story is not a unique one. I have run into countless people in recovery who share similar experiences with having jail being a revolving door. What I have seen work is for people to have access to services, support from people that have walked in their shoes, and a criminal justice system that believes in rehabilitation. I also have witnessed firsthand what the recovery community has looked like both prior to measure 110 being in affect and after its effect has taken place.

I encourage you all to look at the substance use disorder problem we have in Oregon from another angle. Please remain open-minded to this approach of treatment over incarceration and allow it the time it needs to have the positive long term affects I believe it will have. This is why I oppose HB 4036. Thank you.

I was able to give this verbal testimony last night and appreciate you all hearing it. Due to the time constraint on the testimony, I couldn't talk much about a solution unfortunately. I want to elaborate more in my written testimony to you about aspects I think are solution driven.

I live in Jackson County but get the privilege to work in both Jackson and Josephine County. I have seen a positive impact measure 110 has had due to our ability as a nonprofit here to expand our services. The key component to this epidemic I see on a regular basis is this. I can work with an individual for long period of time to encourage and support seeking an inpatient facility, but due to the lack of availability within the state it almost must be divine intervention for all things to align for someone to enter treatment and stay to have success. The simple fact is this. We need more inpatient treatment options. A person can hit a point of desperation where they are willing to take that step and seek the help

necessary for them to get clean but unless that opportunity is available while they are in this mental state of change nothing will happen. I heard the committee mention that a thousand new beds will be funded within the state for treatment, and I think that is great. I ask you then, is that enough?

The services that are funded through measure 110 will never have the potential positive impact it could without having this key component. Please consider legislature that will increase this number to more than a thousand. Also consider making it easier for nonprofits to open new treatment centers within our state.

I'm sure this is not the first or that last time this type of solution will be brought to your attention. I truly believe that this one aspect will be a major step in the right direction and will support the services funded by measure 110 in the way the state wanted it to be when the voters voted on passing the measure.