

Submitter:

Angela Aurit

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1583

Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

For the last twenty four years, i have worked as a treatment provider and a variety of milies, including residential, outpatient drug court, intensive outpatient treatment services, medication assisted treatment services and integrated behavioral health care in medical settings. In most of these settings, people were there due to their substance use disorder that had caused them to come into contact with the courts and the judicial system. Though many of them were helped by the judicial system, many of them were unduly harmed. Including preventing them from being able to get loans to continue higher education, obtaining housing services, and being barred from applying for better jobs due to having to state that they had been arrested for substance related offenses.

I am writing in opposition to SB 1583. I do not believe returning to a criminal justice system structure would benefit the majority of persons who have substance use disorders. People can and do recover from substance use every single day. They do this with a variety of programs, providers, and peer support services that are currently in place. This bill would destabilize the systems of care built under Measure 110 by shifting oversight and funding in a way that disrupts treatment, recovery, harm reduction, and deflection services.

Providers and communities have spent years building capacity and trust. Abrupt structural changes make it harder to deliver consistent care and risk leaving people without the services they need.

Oregon should focus on strengthening existing programs and improving data systems — not creating instability through major governance shifts. I urge you to oppose SB 1583.

Thank you for the work that you do and considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Angela Aurit MSW LCSW CADC III CGAC II
Licensed Clinical Cocial Worker
Certified Substance Use Disorder Counselor
Certified Problem Gambling Counselor