

February 3, 2026



To the Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

I would like to submit this testimony in opposition to SB 1583. As the founder of a community-based organization supporting hundreds of people in recovery from addiction, I strongly urge you to consider the impacts of SB 1583.

Reclaiming Lives receives Measure 110 funding and provides peer support and outreach at our location in Medford. We also engage in outreach to people not engaged in care, most of whom are in carceral settings. We believe in sustainable care that helps create pathways for those who need it most.

Ensuring our current continuum of care for addiction treatment and recovery stays in place is imperative. Changes to M110 governance would disrupt the infrastructure we've worked hard to build over the last several years.

Like many other organizations across the state, Reclaiming Lives has invested in workforce development, data tracking, and partnerships under the current governance structure. Shifting primary oversight to a criminal justice-oriented entity will disrupt the work already being done. We are concerned that SB 1583 will destabilize the system that is already impacted by Medicaid cuts. Any time there is a disruption in the systems administering these funds the clients are the ones ultimately impacted by service gaps, access issues, and loss of important provider relationships.

I also think it is important to recognize the work being done by The Oregon Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission on a comprehensive strategic planning process that reflects statewide needs, evidence-based practices, and system alignment across prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and recovery.

Effective systems of care take time to develop and depend on stable support and predictable funding. Proceeding with major structural changes could have an impact on long-term planning the state has invested in.

For these reasons, Reclaiming Lives urges the Senate Committee on Judiciary to oppose SB 1583. I appreciate the opportunity to speak on behalf of our organization and those we serve here in Southern Oregon.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Mendenhall
Executive Director & Founder