

Submitter: Angelo Villafane
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1583

Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

I am writing in opposition to SB 1583. This bill would destabilize the systems of care built under Measure 110 by shifting oversight and funding in ways that could disrupt 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.

Through my professional experience, I have seen the direct impact of peer support services, and it extends far beyond addressing mental health and substance use disorders. Many of the individuals I support struggle with basic daily tasks, and current wait times to see social workers or establish in-home care are often not feasible. Peer support helps bridge these gaps, promoting safety and stability until participants can be connected with the appropriate level of care.

Reducing or cutting these services would have consequences well beyond addiction and mental health recovery; it would weaken a critical layer of support that helps individuals remain safe, engaged, and connected to their communities. For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to oppose SB 1583.

Thank you for considering my testimony.