

Submitter: Jennifer Siegel
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1583

My name is Jennifer Siegel, CADC2. I am a drug and alcohol counselor for Portland Public Schools. I am sharing my thoughts on this matter because I'm well aware of both the positive and negative effects of Measure 110 throughout the years. We professionals in the recovery community are starting to see some stability since 110 changed after the pandemic. Please don't tamper with the small progress that has been made by undermining the work of skilled professionals. The data is clear that incarceration does not change the average person's substance misusing behaviors. It's clear that the average person requires more time in structured treatment, not less. Jails and prisons are NOT treatment. If anything needs to change, may I suggest we fund the Oregon Department of Education's attempt to add substance misuse and mental health curriculum in to classrooms at every grade level? If the goal is to actually make a positive change, teaching common sense prevention skills more fully before substance misuse begins is the right move instead of disrupting the few things we currently have going well in addiction treatment. Thank you for your consideration and for your time.