

Submitter:

Elton Frice

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. I am a person in recovery, a family member of someone impacted by substance use, a behavioral health worker, and a community member who works in this field.

What supported my recovery was a clear continuum of care — treatment, followed by intensive outpatient, outpatient services, and ongoing connection to recovery centers. Those recovery centers were critical. They helped me build community, access resources, and sustain recovery long after formal treatment ended. That continuity is what makes recovery possible.

What did not help — and what caused harm — were long waitlists, lack of affordable options, having to seek care out of state, and not knowing where to turn after treatment. My family and I experienced firsthand how disjointed systems and gaps in care can leave people vulnerable at the exact moment they need support the most.

Measure 110 allowed Oregon to begin building systems that prioritize health, recovery, and long-term stability. SB 1583 threatens to disrupt that progress by shifting oversight away from health-based systems and creating uncertainty for providers, peers, and families. This instability risks breaking trust, interrupting care, and weakening youth and family services at a time when people need help right now.

As someone who has lived this and now works in the field, I urge you to oppose SB 1583 and focus instead on strengthening and stabilizing the systems that support recovery and save lives.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.