

Submitter: Donovan Vait

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1583

Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Donovan Vait, and I am an adolescent counselor working directly with youth and families affected by substance use in Oregon. I am writing in opposition to SB 1583.

Measure 110 allowed providers and communities to build systems of care focused on treatment, recovery support, harm reduction, and deflection. Over the past several years, I have seen firsthand how much effort it has taken to build capacity, establish trust, and engage young people who are often hesitant to seek help. SB 1583 would destabilize that work by shifting oversight and funding in ways that disrupt programs that are still developing and serving vulnerable populations.

Abrupt structural and governance changes make it harder to deliver consistent, effective care. For adolescents especially, continuity and trust are critical. Disruptions in services increase the risk that youth disengage from treatment and lose access to supports at a time when early intervention matters most.

Oregon should focus on strengthening existing programs, improving coordination, and enhancing data systems to ensure accountability and outcomes — not creating instability through major system changes. For these reasons, I urge you to oppose SB 1583.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Respectfully,  
Donavan Vait