

Submitter:

Doug Duvall

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1583

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

I am writing in opposition to SB 1583 from the perspective of a peer support specialist and the founder of Reclaiming Lives, a community-based organization serving hundreds of individuals and families impacted by substance use disorder in Southern Oregon.

Peer support is built on trust, relationship, and hope. It works because it meets people where they are, honors lived experience, and offers pathways forward without judgment or punishment. Through Measure 110 funding, Reclaiming Lives provides peer-delivered support and outreach in Medford and to individuals not currently engaged in care, including many who are involved in or impacted by the carceral system. Our work focuses on sustainable recovery, connection, and long-term stability.

SB 1583 threatens the foundation that makes peer support effective. The current Measure 110 governance structure has allowed peer-led and community-based organizations to invest in workforce development, establish data systems, and build strong partnerships across treatment, harm reduction, and recovery services. Shifting oversight toward a criminal justice-oriented entity risks undermining the recovery-centered approach that peers rely on to engage people who have often experienced trauma, stigma, and system harm.

From a peer perspective, system disruption is not abstract—it directly impacts people. When governance changes destabilize funding or service delivery, individuals experience gaps in care, broken relationships, and setbacks in recovery. This is especially concerning given the existing strain on services due to Medicaid cuts. People in recovery need consistency, predictability, and continuity, not uncertainty.

I also want to recognize the ongoing strategic planning work of the Oregon Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission. This process reflects statewide needs and evidence-based practices while honoring prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and recovery as equally essential components of care. Peer support thrives in systems that are stable and aligned. Major structural changes at this time risk undoing progress the state and providers have worked hard to achieve.

Recovery is not built through punishment—it is built through connection, dignity, and support. For these reasons, and on behalf of the peers we employ and the people we serve, I urge the Senate Committee on Judiciary to oppose SB 1583.

Thank you for the opportunity to share this perspective and for your consideration of the voices of people in recovery across Oregon.

Respectfully,

Doug Duvall

CRM, Reclaiming Lives
Southern Oregon