

Submitter: April Parker  
On Behalf Of: 1583  
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 as treatment and recovery saved my life and the life of my children. Oversight and Accountability Council would be the way that I would want the funding to be disbursed rather than the Behavioral Health and Deflection Committee within the Criminal Justice Commission- which would put an emphasis on arresting and stigmatizing more the treatment of SUD and mental health. I was in addiction myself beginning at the age of 19 years old and came to recovery at the age of 23 years old. Now, I am now a home owner a college graduate and have 17 years of recovery. This bill would destabilize the systems of care built under Measure 110 by shifting oversight and funding in a way that disrupts treatment, recovery, harm reduction, and deflection services. There are ways that things can be changed and would love to think collaboratively to do that .

Abrupt structural changes make it very hard to deliver consistent care and risk leaving people without the service. I am a mental health provider that works with teens that also provides SUD treatment on a daily basis I see positive changes in their lives. I have worked with other programs and have seen the structures that have been put in place over the last few years that have opened many doors for people. I appreciate your dedication and in strengthening the existing programs by improving data systems through major governance shifts. I request you to oppose SB 1583 as being a voting member mother and community member

Thank you for considering my testimony much respect,  
April May Parker.