

Submitter: Wesley Lobdell
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 Wesley Lobdell, and I work as an addictions counselor in training in Klamath County. I have also served as a peer support provider, including working directly with people returning to the community after incarceration and individuals with justice involvement. In these roles, I support people who have been historically disconnected from care. meeting them where they are, building trust, and helping them access services that promote safety, stability, and long-term recovery. Measure 110 has allowed our community to strengthen these connections, reduce barriers to care, and respond to substance use as a public health issue rather than a criminal one. In Klamath County, I have seen Measure 110–funded services help individuals stabilize, re-engage with treatment, and begin rebuilding their lives, benefiting both individuals and the broader community.

For people experiencing addiction or working to sustain recovery, overlooking harm reduction and peer-led organizations would be deeply harmful. These programs are often the first and most consistent point of contact and play a critical role in keeping people alive, engaged, and connected to care. Having seen firsthand how consistent access to these services supports stability and recovery, the continuity of funding and systems of care is extremely important to me.

I am writing in opposition to SB 1583. This bill would destabilize the systems of care developed under Measure 110 by shifting oversight and funding in ways that disrupt treatment, recovery, harm reduction, and deflection services. Providers and communities have invested years in building capacity and trust. Sudden structural changes threaten service continuity and risk leaving people without support. Oregon should prioritize strengthening existing programs and improving coordination and data systems, rather than introducing instability through significant governance changes.

I urge you to oppose SB 1583. Thank you for considering my testimony.