



Chair and Member of the Senate Committee,

My name is Nick Kolias, I am a father of 7. I live in Grants Pass. My job as a Parent Mentor is funded by Measure 110. Like my clients, I too struggled with addiction, prison, and even homelessness. I had lost my 6-week-old daughter due to mistakes I made in life but with determination and the heart of a dad I got my daughter back. I fought long and hard to overcome so many barriers in my life. Now with my job I can help so many people overcome some of the same struggles and barriers I had once had myself. Without this funding I would not be able to help serve the dads that are going through some of the same struggles. I have had many cases where the dads I serve have gone through treatment, had their children returned to their care, and are thriving in our community. I would like to ask you please, let me continue to do the work I love to do and help the families I serve. There are not a lot of resources out there for dads, and I have worked with many who struggle. Sometimes I am just an ear that listens, a ride to treatment, groups and family time visits at ODHS. Really, I am a helping hand that makes that little struggle in life a bit easier to get over. As a Parent mentor who loves his job, I ask you today to continue to keep Measure 110 funding alive. So, I can keep doing my job.

Thank you for your time,

Nick Kolias