

Submitter: Matthew Wickman  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1583

I was a street addict for decades here in Portland. I am now a clean and productive member of society and a volunteer in my community. I learned how to live clean, volunteer and to basically be human through CCC, The Alano Club, The Recovery Gym, Bikes for Humanity, the Chain Reaction program and 4D- all organizations that receive M110 funding. I see people on the street every day- all day who really need the same help I received- whatever that looks like.

I believe a community can be fairly judged by the way we treat the vulnerable people within that community. It's a strong and difficult commitment to stand up and care for those who can't stand for themselves. However, Oregon has always been a leader and shown the way for the rest of the nation when it comes to difficult and seemingly unsolvable problems. Let's continue to be examples for a nation that is increasingly hardening its heart and openly persecuting the weak and vulnerable. Let's treat our sick with dignity so that we can hold on to our own.

Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

I am writing in opposition to SB 1583. 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.

Providers and communities have spent years building capacity and trust. Abrupt structural changes make it harder to deliver consistent care and risk leaving people without the services they need.

Oregon should focus on strengthening existing programs and improving data systems — not creating instability through major governance shifts. I urge you to oppose SB 1583.

Thank you for considering my testimony.