



Family Nurturing Center

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Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Sergio Stephens; I am a Parent Mentor with the Family Nurturing Center in Josephine County. I am also a person in long term recovery. I spent years homeless and without recovery support in both Jackson and Josephine County. I truly believe that had our communities had the resources and support that M 110 has been able to provide for our communities I would have been able to become a productive member of society long before I did. I am writing this to declare my opposition to SB 1583. My personal experience alone has proven that resources and support are the tools that will help solve the substance use disorder situation we currently face in this state. My professional experience is one that shows that not only has M 110 been great for our communities but also for our economy. We currently have 10 Peer Support positions funded through M 110. Those positions serve hundreds of families a year. When contemplating reducing funding for M 110 you are also contemplating cutting constituents' jobs, cutting income taxes for the state, and contributions to 401k's like Oregon Saves. Measure 110 has not been a perfect measure, but it has been the only thing the state of Oregon has done to enhance services for the recovery community in years. Please reconsider your opinion on M 110 and reducing its funding. Thank you for your time