

Submitter: Keely Herrera
On Behalf Of:
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. This bill would destabilize the systems of care built under Measure 110 by shifting oversight and funding in ways that disrupt treatment, recovery, harm reduction, and deflection services.

Over the past several years, providers and community partners have invested immense time, care, and resources into building programs grounded in trust, consistency, and compassion. These systems were not created quickly or easily. They were built relationship by relationship, often with individuals who had already been deeply harmed by instability and broken promises. Abrupt structural changes risk undoing this progress and leaving people without access to the services they depend on during their most vulnerable moments.

As a provider, I have witnessed firsthand how continuity of care saves lives. I think of a participant who came to us after years of instability, homelessness, and untreated substance use. When she first arrived, she was carrying profound shame and fear. She had lost her housing, her health, and custody of her child. Past experiences had taught her not to trust systems, because support had always been temporary, conditional, or abruptly taken away.

Through the stability provided by Measure 110-funded services, we were able to walk alongside her through the long and difficult process of recovery. This support did not disappear during setbacks, relapses, or overwhelming court dates. Recovery was not linear, and it was not easy, but because services remained consistent, she was able to stay engaged in treatment, secure stable housing, and slowly begin rebuilding her life. Over time, she reconnected with her community, obtained stable employment, and ultimately navigated the complex CPS system to reunify with her children.

The moment she regained custody was not just a personal victory, it was the result of a stable, coordinated system of care that allowed her to show up consistently as a parent, a worker, and a member of her community. Today, she is not merely surviving. She is raising her children, contributing to her community, and living proof that sustained, compassionate care works.

Disrupting these systems now puts people like her—and their families—at serious risk of falling through the cracks once again. Oregon should focus on strengthening existing programs and improving coordination and accountability, not creating

instability through major governance shifts. I urge you to oppose SB 1583 and protect the systems of care that are changing lives and keeping families together.

Thank you for your time and consideration.