

Submitter: Michele Bradfute
On Behalf Of: Northwest Family Services
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 further 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.

Northwest Family Services provides treatment services for youth and families in the Clackamas and East Multnomah County areas. We pride ourselves on the relationships we have built with the community we serve as well as our work with public health. Our recent reduction in funding has significantly impacted our ability to provide treatment services due to having to dismantle some of the programming M110 helped us to set up to begin with. All of the work we have done to support the youth and families in the community is being undone and further cuts only serve to dismantle programming even more.

Oregon should focus on strengthening existing programs and improving data systems — not creating instability through major governance shifts. We need to stay the course and continue to fund and build the infrastructure that will support and help our communities for years to come.

I urge you to think of all the children who want to be reunited with their parents who are experiencing SUD, parents that want to see their teens thrive without fear of addiction and pregnant individuals impacted by SUD, who want and need support to find recovery and live healthy sober lives and oppose SB 1583. The people of Oregon are counting on all of you to do the right thing and address this public health crisis we are all facing in one way or another.

Thank you for considering my testimony.
Michele Bradfute