

OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Republican Caucus

November 14, 2023

Dear Governor Kotek, President Wagner, and Speaker Rayfield:

House Republicans agree with the majority of Oregonians: Measure 110 has been an abysmal failure. The addiction, crime, and homeless crises that plague our great state have only worsened as a result of this bad policy. As the leaders of the majority party, it is incumbent upon you to take immediate action to address these issues.

House Republicans believe the following actions must be taken to alleviate the suffering caused by Measure 110 so Oregon can begin to heal:

- 1. **Rehabilitate** those struggling with addiction. Measure 110 promised treatment but it instead has enabled addiction. The House Republican plan will not leave people without the support they need to recover. Treatment should be a requirement, not a suggestion, for those who commit crimes to fuel their habits. We can achieve this by mandating treatment, instituting welfare holds for intoxicated individuals who pose a danger to themselves or others, and creating conditional discharge diversion procedures for those charged with drug possession. We support expunging drug possession criminal records for those who successfully undergo treatment.
- 2. **Restore** criminal justice accountability by reinstituting penalties for possession of deadly fentanyl, meth, and heroin. Additionally, the public use of drugs should be prohibited consistent with the laws regulating alcohol and marijuana use.
- 3. **Reinvest** funding to address acute needs. Fund county probation departments to supervise misdemeanor theft and property crime cases where defendants are dealing with addiction, and prioritize adequate and stable funding for Oregon's Specialty Courts. Create adequate stabilization, detoxification and treatment capacity in jurisdictions throughout Oregon by making sustainable investments in sobering center/stabilization and treatment bed capacity for adults and youth. The state

- should use bonds to make capital investments for treatment and recovery infrastructure.
- 4. **Repeal** other failed aspects of Measure 110 to improve efficiency at delivering life-saving resources. This includes abolishing the ineffective, activist-led Oversight and Accountability Council. Ensure that counties actually get the funding needed to implement prevention, treatment, recovery support, community harm reduction, and enforcement services. Direct the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission to conduct a gaps analysis and advise counties and the legislature on budgeting and best practices for addressing substance use.

Each day that this horrendous policy remains in place creates more opportunity for drug dealers to take advantage of vulnerable Oregonians. It's another day that struggling addicts are unable to receive the treatment promised to them when the policy was enacted. It's another day that Oregonians live in fear of falling victim to crime as desperate people look for ways to feed their habits. It's another day that the homeless crisis worsens.

Failure to act is to embrace the status quo of death, overdoses, crime, and suffering. Enough is enough. House Republicans are willing to work with you on tangible solutions to solve these crises. Stand with us and let's get this done for the people that we serve.

Sincerely,

Jeff Helfrich

House Republican Leader

Virgle Osborne

State Representative, District 2

Christine Goodwan

Lily Morgan

Court Boice

State Representative, District 3

State Representative, House District 1

Christine Goodwin

State Representative, District 4

Kim Wallan

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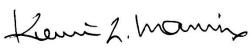
Boomer Wright State Representative, District 9



Charlie Conrad State Representative, District 12



Ed Diehl State Representative, District 17



Kevin Mannix State Representative, District 21



Anna Scharf State Representative, District 23

Brian Stout

State Representative, District 31

James Hieb State Representative, District 51



Jami Cate State Representative, District 11

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