

DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TOM KRESS CHRIS BOICE TIM FREEMAN

1036 SE Douglas Ave., Room 217 → Roseburg, Oregon 97470

October 4, 2023

Governor Kotek; All Legislatures; US Attorney for Oregon Natalie Wight, Former US Attorney Billy Williams

RE: Repeal Ballot Measure 110 and Enforce Federal Drug Laws

Dear Governor Kotek, Members of the Legislative Assembly, US Attorney Wight, Former US Attorney Billy Williams:

While recognizing the importance of addressing issues related to substance abuse, we firmly believe that Measure 110's approach has had unintended consequences on our community. As representatives responsible for the well-being and safety of our residents, we join in urging the reconsideration and rescission of Measure 110 for the following reasons:

- Public Safety and Law Enforcement: The decriminalization of certain drug possessions has compromised public safety by reducing the deterrent effect of law enforcement efforts. We believe a balanced approach involving both treatment and enforcement is essential to maintaining a safe and secure community.
- 2. **Accountability and Community Trust:** A decrease in the focus on law enforcement has eroded accountability, leading to an increase in drug-related criminal activities. Maintaining community trust in the justice system is crucial, and a comprehensive approach is necessary to strike a balance between enforcement and rehabilitation.
- 3. **Resource Allocation:** While we recognize the importance of directing resources towards addiction treatment, a solely treatment-focused approach has strained law enforcement efforts to combat drug trafficking and related criminal enterprises. A balanced allocation of resources is vital for addressing the root causes of drug abuse.
- 4. **Collaborative Solutions:** We advocate for a collaborative approach that involves lawmakers, law enforcement, healthcare professionals, and community leaders to develop comprehensive solutions that address the multifaceted nature of substance abuse. Such an approach will ensure that our community is better equipped to face the challenges posed by drug-related issues.

In light of these concerns, we respectfully request that you consider the negative impact of Measure 110 on our county and support efforts to rescind this measure.

By working together, we can develop policies that effectively address the complexities of substance abuse while maintaining the safety and well-being of our residents.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to continued collaboration for the benefit of our community.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF

COMMISSIONERS,

Commissioner Tom Kress, Chair

Commissioner Chris Boice

Commissioner Tim Freeman

DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF

Sheriff John Hanlin

DOUGLAS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY,

DA Rick Wesenberg