

OPPOSE ROLLBACKS TO MEASURE 110

OREGONIANS DESERVE REAL SOLUTIONS

We all have deep frustrations and concerns about the homelessness, drug addiction, and mental health crises in Oregon and across the nation. We must choose real solutions, not scare tactics.

The data is clear: Access to drug treatment and housing-- not harsher criminal penalties -- are the solution to the epidemic of drug addiction.

This is what Oregonians are demanding from local and state lawmakers. It's plain common sense. We cannot arrest our way out of homelessness, drug use or poverty.

The ACLU urges lawmakers to support evidence-based solutions that prevent crime by addressing the root causes, like affordable housing, mental health and addiction services, and economic growth.

OREGON VOTERS SAY NO TO WAR-ON-DRUG POLICIES

We can't expect police to solve every social problem from kids skipping school to mental illness, homelessness and addiction. It's time for solutions that let mental health and drug treatment professionals help people who need and want treatment, freeing up police to focus on violent crime.

OREGON VOTERS WANT THESE REAL SOLUTIONS

- Increasing addiction treatment with recovery housing
- Increasing affordable housing and reducing poverty
- Creating more safe and accessible shelters and temporary housing options to help homeless people into short-term housing
- Creating work programs for trash clean-up and neighborhood revitalization efforts
- Sending crisis counselors, instead of police, to respond to 911 calls about people having mental health or addiction crises

We all deserve to be safe, regardless of where we live, how we look or who we are. Fifty years of a failed war on drugs showed that jail time for people experiencing addiction only made the problems worse.

DEBUNKING MYTHS & MISINFORMATION

Research shows harsher penalties don't stop drug use

The data is clear that criminalization worsens drug addiction, overdoses, and mental health and creates severe obstacles to housing, education, and jobs.

Drug overdose deaths have increased across the country, not just in Oregon

A research study commissioned by the federal CDC found that increases in overdose rates in OR and WA are not correlated to decriminalization policies. In fact, 33 states have higher rates of drug overdose deaths than Oregon.

Why it feels like drug addiction on the streets is worse than before the pandemic

COVID-19 worsened our homelessness and unsheltered crises. People's private suffering is in public view, instead of behind closed doors.

Access to mental health services has been a challenge in Oregon for a long time

Mental health was a major challenge for Oregon long before Measure 110, and Oregonians continue to struggle to access insufficient mental health services.

Why it feels like mental illness on the streets is worse than before

COVID-19 worsened our unsheltered crisis. Being unsheltered makes people more vulnerable and reduces safety, which can lead to or intensify mental illness.

Oregon's housing crisis began long before Measure 110

Multiple studies show that homelessness in expensive cities like Portland is caused by unaffordable housing. Data shows that COVID-19 intensified this crisis.

Does Portland have more unsheltered people than other similar cities?

No. San Jose, Raleigh, and Tucson have the highest proportion of unsheltered people. These cities aren't subject to a decriminalization law like Measure 110.