July 30, 2020

Dear Chair Secretary Clarno and members of the Fiscal Estimate Committee,

Thank you for your work on the Fiscal Estimate Committee in helping Oregon voters understand what is on their ballot in the upcoming election. I have reviewed the draft statements and would like to suggest a small change to the statement for IP #44.

It's important for voters to understand choices and consequences. The first paragraph in Estimate of Financial Impact is clear and direct, but incomplete. Including the consequence of “increase funding” would be helpful. (Following paragraphs do a good job of specifying funding reductions.)

For example:

CURRENT LANGUAGE
The initiative directs the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to establish Addiction Recovery Centers and increase funding for other substance use disorder services, changes the distribution of marijuana tax revenues and reduces drug penalties for possession of some drugs.

An additional short phrase would show both sides of the coin.

WITH SUGGESTED ADDITION
The initiative directs the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to establish Addiction Recovery Centers and increase funding for other substance use disorder services [offset] by decreasing funding to other programs, changes the distribution of marijuana tax revenues and reduces drug penalties for possession of some drugs.

Thank you for considering my comment and please feel free to contact my office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

State Representative Nancy Nathanson