

To whom it may concern,

It is my understanding there is a vote on HB2959 this afternoon, which criminalizes people for public elimination of waste, as "offensive littering".

Though I understand there are hygienic issues involved, I doubt the hygiene reason is really the issue at hand, and that this bill is aimed at the homeless situation.

I would submit that, most any person involved in an act of public elimination would prefer a private bathroom to do such personal and natural bodily functions. Unfortunately a bathroom facility is not always available. Most private businesses do not allow non customers to use their bathrooms, unless purchasing from that business or flat out refuse what appear to be homeless persons from using their private bathrooms. Public bathrooms are usually locked at night, and not very plentiful. Which makes it hard to find a place to eliminate body fluids. Have you never had an urgent need to eliminate your body fluids? Lets get real. This war on homelessness is inhumane and a gross violation of human rights and basic needs. It is cruel and unusual punishment against a certain class of people. Which also brings up other unintended aspects of such a tyrannical law; is a hunter in the woods on public land miles from a bathroom in violation of this law, when he puts his gun down, and relieves himself of his morning coffee??

Driving down a public highway with a 4 year old child, who is doing the potty dance in their car seat, the parent pulls off to the side of the road and gets the child out of the car to relive themselves, is that a violation of the law???

I have personally spent time living on the streets, not out of necessity, I was not homeless, but as a way to better understand what it is like to be homeless and the issues homeless people face daily living under such circumstances. It is not fun, nor desirable, and I would have much rather walked to a porta potty as stinky as they are, than relieved myself behind a building or in the shrubs. It is humiliating and degrading, but nature calling does not always allow for options. Many communities do not have such facilities available, and at any hour of the day or night. If I have to make a choice between "shitting" myself, or public elimination, I guarantee you I will choose public elimination everytime, regardless of unjust laws. Please stop criminalizing homeless persons, and become part of a solution to help "eliminate" these public issues. Stop wasting hard earned taxpayer money making more unjust laws and more criminals, and use your talents and abilities and hard earned tax payer monies to find common sense solutions to such issues.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Krissie Rea