

Dear House Committee on Judiciary members,

I am writing to urge you to support HB 2367 establishing the Right to Rest Act in Oregon. As a resident of Portland for the past two years, I have watched as the City and Police agencies drain money in the endless process of shuffling unhoused people around our city. Constant forced evictions of unhoused camps provide no solutions to the housing crisis and humanitarian crisis in our streets. These sweeps waste the city's time and resources. They destabilize the most vulnerable in our communities as medication, ID cards and survival items are lost during the move. People are pushed into increasingly unsafe places, places with toxic pollution, heavy vehicle traffic and fire risks as the city and police continually tell people to move along but give them no viable place to go. These precious city resources could be much better used to create sanctioned camps and to support low-income housing in our city. It pains me to see neighbors criminalized simply for being too poor to have another place to go.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Hannah Buehler