

Submitter: Catherine Miller
On Behalf Of: myself
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure: HB3501

I oppose HB 3501, as the experiment of letting homeless camps proliferate everywhere has been a drastic failure. My neighborhood is full of tents blocking the sidewalks and RVs blocking sightlines, causing dangerous traffic situations. We had a dangerous large camp for many months last summer, where we watched drug dealing and prostitution happen on a regular basis. Our physical safety was threatened, our catalytic converter was stolen, our gas tank was siphoned, and multiple items were stolen from our porch. We called the police multiple times but they indicated that nothing could be done -- specifically, they stated "No one is coming -- you'll have to handle it yourself". We've watched our once safe neighborhood become filled with trash, graffiti, and open air drug markets. I do not support any more unsanctioned camping around the city -- it's inhumane for the people on the streets, and it's unfair to the rest of us, who expect a clean, safe city in which to live in exchange for the high tax dollars we pay.