

Submitter: Travis Taylor

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

In the last decade, I have been an unfortunate witness to the implosion of Portland due to the hands-off policies toward homeless camps. Parks, especially the Springwater Corridor have been all but destroyed. the I 84 is lined with trash and illegal camps. Sidewalks in the city are blocked off with stolen bicycles, tents, campfires, and drugg addicts openly getting high.

The very thought of further enabling this wanton lawlessness is ludicrous bordering on psychotic. Yes, some people end up down on their luck. Yes, many people at the poverty line are one illness away from losing their housing. But anyone with two functioning eyes can see that the camps we currently have are dangerous, draw a dangerous element and are magnets for illegal behavior.

At this point, Oregon is a magnet for homeless across the country for the lax law enforcement, the idiocy of measure 110 which allows people to walk around with 50 hits of fentanyl without penalty, the open-wallet policies which provide food, tents and needles and the constant looting of taxpayers to fund this madness.

Any law that makes it even easier for addicts to continue our city and state's current death spiral is a slap in the face to every law-abiding citizen. I am appalled that this legislature hasn't been laughed out of the room.