

Submitter: Dale Smith

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

This law threatens the lawfulness, cleanliness, safety, and order of our residential neighborhoods, roadways, trails, beaches, and parks. This law threatens to turn every public space in Oregon into a lawless, rules-free campsite. I challenge every legislator considering a vote for this measure to visit any of dozens of public spaces that have already been left ungoverned — I would suggest the I-205 Bike Path from Holgate north or the Springwater trail from 82nd Avenue east — to get an idea of what it looks like when public spaces are handed over to people who are not bound to basic, common-sense standards of sanitation and public safety. We have to find better solutions for people experiencing homelessness than to entitle them to legal protections for vagrancy.