

Submitter: jason walsh

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

Passing this bill will ensure the erosion of public lands, public spaces and public access for the majority of Oregonians. These lands, the commons, are held in trust by every individual resident of the state and this does include the unhoused population. However, the use of these lands for any private purposes is not congruent with the public trust the government holds responsibility for.

No public lands, those owned or management by any government agency, should be permitted to be used for overnight living, residential, temporary housing, temporary camping unless those lands have been titled or managed expressly for those purposes. With land use comes land responsibility. These lands do not have the infrastructure that is required for camping or living purposes in order to protect the environment and health of Oregonians. Until, and unless, lands are developed for human living purposes then they should be held as greenbelts, safety zones, public parks, easements, rights-of-way, etc...and not used as camps or living places.

Allowing any individual to claim the "bundle of rights" that is part and parcel of American Land Ownership on public land will erode the system of private ownership and degrade the public trust in managing public lands for all Oregonians.

Take back public lands for the titled use of those lands for the majority of Oregonians. If you want camps then create camps with required infrastructure through the legal process.