

Submitter: Chris Elford

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

We need to solve the actual problem of homelessness not normalize its behaviors. This bill just further normalizes it's behavior and will further multiply the problem while degrading the quality and safety of our public spaces.

The first step should be to repeal the drug decriminalization measures of the last several years which have immeasurably multiplied the problems faced by our borderline/vulnerable population.

Public spaces (with the exception of ones designed and/or retrofitted for camping) are not appropriate for camping. It is not good for the space, for the campers, or for the public at large to have non camping public spaces misused in an ongoing basis.

If you must permit some relaxed camping, designate very specific locations as time bounded permitted exceptions to camping ground rules rather than a blanket torpedoing of all our public spaces.