

Submitter: Brandt Boisseranc

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

While I believe that homeless people have rights and that society needs to show compassion toward them, I do not agree that they should be given the power to set up a tent on any public space. Allowing this results in the public space ultimately being taken over by the homeless, ultimately preventing others in the community from access to said public space. Most importantly, a large percentage of the homeless have substance abuse issues and/or mental health issues. Therefore, society needs to hold the homeless accountable for their behavior and provide them with treatment services that will enable the homeless a chance to recover and become contributing members of society. The statement "If you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. If you teach a man to fish, you feed him for a lifetime." applies here. We need to provide skills and recovery services and not simply provide handouts if we are truly going to address homelessness.