

Submitter: Michael Kennedy

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

This bill is little more than a patronizing band-aid to a genuine problem. The time and effort being spent on this issue is little more than a distraction from the true issues of the homeless problem in Oregon. These people need sustainable, livable housing. They do not need patronizing tents, pity, or anything else that does little more than push the problems of homelessness down the road. Shoving homeless people into arguments of freedom and "rights" is disrespectful of those individuals who are having housing problems, and who need genuine help with good, permanent housing, education, career counseling, drug rehabilitation, and child care. Homeless people don't need tents or license to be wherever they are in our communities. They need help, not feel-good legislation. Living on the streets is a disaster. Trash, human waste, drug needles, are everywhere. I've seen human shit on the light rail, I've seen fires, garbage, dangerous dogs, and mentally ill people in the streets, screaming and tearing off clothing. This bill does little more than justify this kind of behavior and does nothing to help.