

Submitter: Nate Sjol

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

HB3501 reads like it gives homeless individuals the right to set up camp in public parks and I'm struggling to understand why we would not only encourage this, but codify it in law. As someone who lives in Rep. Chaichi's district, I am disappointed that she would be co-sponsoring this legislation.

The effects of a hands-off approach to allowing homeless to camp wherever they like has already damaged wetlands and natural areas in Rep. Chaichi's district and I hear horror stories from Rep. Pham's district regarding the campers along the Springwater Corridor, in neighborhood parks, and elsewhere.

We all want to help those in our society who are in need, but allowing people to take over public spaces and repurpose them for their own uses in an ongoing basis, and thus depriving others of use of those spaces, is not the answer.