

Submitter: Robert Hillier

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

I am writing in opposition to HB 3501 Oregon Right to Rest Act. When I was first made aware of this bill my first reaction was: are these people proposing this completely out of their minds and why is the Oregon legislature wasting time on this asinine proposal instead of seeking actual solutions to our homeless and drug problems? Have they seen the current condition of Portland and are they actually naive enough to believe this bill would actually help the homeless? Current local and state policies along with the complete incompetence of our local leaders has enabled the increased homelessness, drug use and crime plaguing our city. We have literally spent about a billion dollars already on homeless services, housing (aka tents and tarps) and drug treatment only to see the problem getting worse. People and businesses are now voting with their feet by leaving Portland and Multnomah County due to crime, homelessness, and high taxes and have given up hope that our leaders are capable of solving these problems. HB 3501 will only further enable homelessness and illegal camping in our public spaces along with the accompanying trash and drug use that has now become the norm in many of our communities. Please kill this insane bill and start proposing real solutions before it's too late and our once envied quality of life and livability become just a memory.