

Submitter: Janet Gillespie

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

If this becomes law city and county governments will have even less influence to move people who are now living outdoors (with no access to toilets or water, heat or AC) into housing and shelters.

More homeless will suffer from illnesses and addiction and die while those paying to be housed will continue to pay the consequences of having so many unhoused people in the city, many of whom are unemployed and choosing to steal to support themselves or in many cases their addictions.

We need laws to make it more desirable to seek housing and that allow less outdoor living unless in organized spaces with facilities and social workers.

Addiction is an illness so we shouldn't pass laws that make it easier for people with this illness to get worse by using inside their tents with no incentives to get well. The cost is too high for them and for everyone in the community who ends up getting ripped off to support their habits.

This bill is an affront to all who voted to increase funding for shelter