

Submitter: Thomas Wikle

On Behalf Of: Self

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

I oppose this measure. Oregon and Portland are losing population. One of the reasons is the sight of homeless people on sidewalks and other public spaces, crime, and destruction of property. The workers in Oregon pay for the public spaces. I believe there is an expectation that public spaces will be clean and safe. The Oregon legislature needs to work towards making Oregon a place people want to live and work, not a haven for the homeless.

Homeless people should be given opportunities for housing, addiction, and mental health care. We are working towards that. We are paying more taxes to help make that happen. A hard choice needs to be made that while caring for homeless people, we cannot give them free reign in public spaces.

Do not pass this legislation.