

Submitter: Melody Watt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

Our beautiful waterways are being harmed by campers on our public lands. I watched as years of progress to restore Johnson Creek was utterly destroyed by campers. The trails I love there I've never even taken my young daughters on despite living blocks from because of the volume of campers, campers who I have had terrifying encounters with. There is drug paraphernalia everywhere. There is human waste everywhere. The environmental impact is huge. When did Oregonians stop caring for our land and the impact that we are having on it?! I'm disgusted by the lack of care and stewardship for these stolen lands.

Yes I feel for these addicts. They need help. Lots of help. Aggressively managed mental health. Addiction treatment options. All of which are severely lacking in the state. But to just let them destroy our public lands is a travesty and will only further to prove how flawed the progressive agenda has gotten and will turn voters like myself away from the party. It will not improve conditions for these houseless people or for taxpayers.