

Submitter: Bonnie Bennett

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

I am writing to express my vehement opposition to HB 3501. I was gobsmacked to learn this bill was real.

Portlanders (and, my guess, the rest of Oregonians) overwhelmingly support an end to unsanctioned camping. A cursory glance around the city will show you a city on the brink of total implosion: blatant drug use, open defecation and urination, tents blocking sidewalks, garbage spilling on to public thoroughfares, all-too-frequent encampment and RV fires, and businesses covered in plywood. How much more are tax-paying citizens and small businesses expected to endure?

Please oppose this bill and, instead, support shelters, designated camping and car/RV sites and mental health services using the (existing) millions of dollars the State, County and City have at their disposal