

Submitter: S Armstrong

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

How in the world will this help our homeless situation? Putting up a “Welcome to Oregon, please use illicit drugs, steal anything not nailed down without consequence, oh, and please camp near our schools for free!”

Homelessness is a huge problem in Portland. We are further setting ourselves up for failure, just like decriminalizing illicit drugs. We are telling Oregonians that the rights of those on the streets are far more important than any other citizen to feel safe walking down the street. I have had family members homeless by their own choices. Many people live on the streets by their own drug use, choices and burning all their bridges. The answer isn't to give up and just let those who want to USE UP the city instead of CONTRIBUTE to it, have it.

I feel for those who are homeless because of unforeseen or hard circumstances. With this, You are saying those people should just live with criminals on the streets and deal with the violence that creates? This feels like some sort of moral high ground grandstanding, without looking at the bigger picture. Stop making legislation based off of wanting to look progressive. This isn't progressive, it is allowing the city yo further wallow in its problems.

Please do not push this bill forward, it will be the final nail in Portland's coffin.