

Submitter: Alex Gee

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

The proposed "Right to Rest" bill in Oregon that would decriminalize public camping is a misguided and extremely terrible idea. Allowing individuals to camp in public spaces without limitations or consequences would only exacerbate the homelessness crisis and lead to unsanitary and unsafe conditions for both the homeless individuals and the surrounding community. Additionally, granting homeless individuals the same privacy rights as those who own private property ignores the fact that public spaces are meant for the use and enjoyment of all members of the community, not just for personal living spaces. This bill does not provide real solutions to homelessness and only serves to normalize and perpetuate it.