

Submitter: Mike Smith
On Behalf Of: My family
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure: HB3501

Dear House Committee on Housing and Homelessness,

This poorly conceived bill reflects the inability to see the bigger picture of the problems and strike the right balance in finding the solution. First, it creates fictional legal rights already guaranteed under the U.S. Constitution and Oregon Revised Statutes 659A.403 for every citizen, including the less fortunate homeless individual. Second, the bill does not address homelessness and its root causes other than making Oregon a temporary playground for homeless individuals.

Third, HB 3501 will create perpetual litigation between the “aggrieved person” against everyone, including the Oregon government. The bill will create cycle of grievances starting from the homeless individuals to the home and property owners, business owners then to local law enforcement to state government. How much government funds would be allocated to mediate between the litigate parties, and pay “compensatory damages” or “\$1,000 per violation,” and how many “aggrieved person” would file a complaint per violation? Isn’t it better to use the resources for their housing? It is problematic and not practical nor economical. Thus, this bill is not the solution.

E. Smith