

Submitter: Tom Sedory

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

The homeless situation in this state is deplorable. However, this bill essentially redirects our paid taxes to create types of public spaces never intended. Over the years, we tax payers with homes have approved various bills to fund parks, libraries and other public spaces. When voting for and approving those tax increases to be directed to those public spaces, there was a defined or commonly understood definition of use of those public spaces.

This bill, however, would fundamentally change the use characteristics of those spaces. This is an illegal bait-and-switch tactic by the legislature: you sought our funds under a pretense that will no longer should this bill go through.

I hope this bill fails, because I believe it turns an already terrible situation worse. However, if this bill were to proceed, it must make provisions for localities to exclude all public spaces specifically funded by initiatives. This would at a minimum, include all parks and libraries in the Metro area, and likely many more across the state.