

Submitter: Jonathon Nelson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

Dear Members of the Oregon State Legislature.

I am writing you in **STRONG OPPOSITION** of this bill. While I truly believe the intentions are to enable dignity for people with alternative living situations, the reality is anything but dignified.

Frankly - placing the accommodation of persons experiencing homelessness over the safety and livability of an entire city is not sound policy. It has led to crime, drugs abuse, inaccessible and unsanitary public right of ways. Businesses and residents are fleeing Portland and this is consistently a top reason why. What is your goal here? Is it to continue to push out residential and commercial tax payers until the entire city is nothing but tents and homemade shacks? That is the path you present with this bill.

I have seen first hand in our family friendly neighborhood - human feces, used needles, trash, and violence. This is obscene, and you would like to decriminalize and make these conditions permanent? How does that solve the issue?

Local news stories abound describing what this does to our beautiful city - local businesses shuttering, residents being attacked by stray dogs, drug markets taking over our downtown. Please ask yourself - is this the future the people of Portland deserve?

Vote **NO** on this bill. Or Portland will continue to bleed away people and businesses who care, love this city, and help it to thrive.

Thank you.