

Submitter: Gregory Larkin

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

I strongly urge you to both HB 3501 Right to Rest Act and SB 603

The Right to Rest Act, if passed, will be a horrendous mistake. The general public has had enough with the state and local governments spending outrageous sums but accomplishing little to solve the problems of drug addiction and mental illness. This is where all the focus should be right now. Allowing houseless to camp or park anywhere on public property will make this state unsafe to live in. In addition, Oregon will become the "go to place" for others from around the country to come here and further tax the system. Additionally, the idea of fining people \$1,000 for "harassing" the houseless is outrageous. I used to live next to a large camp and had to deal with threats, attempted break-ins, people pulling out my plants, stolen bicycle parts strewn on my property, tents on fire in the middle of the night, people screaming obscenities, people showing their privates in public, and noxious fumes from campfires. I could go on. The concept of one of these homeless people complaining about me "harassing" them and then being fined is incomprehensible. Pass this bill, and you will see many taxpayers packing up and moving on. I just might be one of them.

SB 603 will not address the real problem which is providing low-cost housing to those living at or near poverty levels. SB 603 is just a hand out that allows recipients to use that money for anything, including for liquor and drugs.