

Submitter: Jason Reid
On Behalf Of: Portland Business Owners
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure: HB3501

I strongly oppose HB 3501. Making campers move from public spaces, sidewalks, streets etc. is necessary for the betterment of our city and lives of all. It is uncomfortable to have to move, if you have homeless and set up camp, but what about the tens of thousands of others that are negatively impacted by the plethora of sprawling campsites? These sites have huge criminal activities. I myself have had my business robbed and vandalized multiple times and even had my staff car jacked from a local homeless drug addict. There is open drug use, smoking meth right on bike paths that I have previously used to take my young son on bike rides. De-criminalizing illegal camping only makes it legal to continue the degradation of our city. These people need help and compassion and not a small amount of "tough love" not acts that only enable them to continue in their degraded state of existence and degrade the lives of everyone around them.