

Submitter: Lents Homeowner

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

Please no. For the past 4 or more years we have witnessed and experienced the effect of homeless street camping on our neighborhood. Inevitably what springs up concurrently with the tent sites are: Stolen vehicles, RVs and decrepit tent/car hybrids eventually blocking the road. Gas theft and lots of garbage strewn through the street, occasional needles, these are quite common occurrences. If it weren't for periodic cleanups (sweeps) performed by the City of Portland, the next street over from us would be completely blocked by now. The street cleanup typically lasts for 2 maybe 3 weeks before the homeless campers return. We feel less safe in our neighborhood with all this going on. We are heartened by the cleanups.

We have lost our Fred Meyer and Walmart due to shoplifting. We have one neighbor whose dog was stolen by homeless campers - never to be seen again. I am sorry to say that my family and neighbors are - for the most part - out of compassion for the homeless. Sad but true. If this is voted into law, I will sign any initiative presented to me to repeal it.