

Submitter: NJ Winston

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

I most strongly oppose this proposed legislation. My property borders a trail, the Trolley Trail, originally a rail line between Milwaukie and Oregon City. It is intended as a walking and bicycle path, it is administered by the Parks Department. Allowing homeless camping along the trails, in parks, and anywhere one wishes all too often results in drug and human trafficking, dreadful health conditions, garbage and risk of fire. Surely you are aware of the fires in Portland alone!

Concerns which have already surfaced in our neighborhood include drug-affected individuals on our private party, a campfire set by a homeless man on the property next to us, tents and trash and garbage along the trail to the south of our property. One of the most disagreeable instances was an instance of "loud sexual abuse" also on private property in the middle of the night. Thankfully, the Sheriff's department provides assistance to not only the residents and local businesses, but to those who suffer some of the consequences of their poor choices. This seems to preclude the sheriff's department from responding to complaints.

Homeless themselves are due a better option than this bill outlines. So do the law-abiding tax-paying residents of Oregon.