

Submitter: Robin Scheuerlein
On Behalf Of: All transit employees
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure: HB3501

This bill is a mistake! I am a driver for TriMet and we transport the homeless day in and day out. We have no reprieve from the constant drug use and to be frank filth that is dragged on to our busses. When we get to the end of the line it is our only time where we can clear the bus have a meal and use the restroom. It is a safety measure as well. It ensures that all passengers have gotten to their destination and no one is staying on for nefarious reasons. Often times the homeless that refuse to leave have all of their belongings in the preferred seating area designated for ADA passengers which oftentimes prevents wheelchairs and individuals with walkers from boarding. Without the ability to have these people removed, or just moved, we are depriving out disabled citizens from being able to use transportation. I am wholeheartedly against the bill especially when it comes to small businesses. It's hard enough for them to maintain a safe and sanitary entrance now they have to fear fines for trying to keep their patrons safe. This makes absolutely no sense. This bill sounds like it's trying to push out small businesses and turn public transportation into mobile meth labs. Our city is hurting enough.