

Submitter: David Foster

On Behalf Of: Self

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

As a lifelong Democrat, I believe in civil liberties and individual rights. However, this bill goes to far and is unnecessary. Everybody in Oregon already enjoys protection under the law from menacing, assault, etc. We do not need to carve out special exceptions for people experiencing homelessness. Without question, the practical effect of this measure will be an increase in tent camping and encampments in public places, places that everybody is supposed to enjoy. That would include parks and grassy medians, for example. Currently, I know if nobody who would feel comfortable walking in a park that had been taken over by homeless encampment, due to drugs and gun violence. Please do not pass this measure.