Submitter: Meghan Gardner

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

This bill is a terrible idea. We do not need to prioritize more rights for homeless people. We need to prioritize time, energy and funding to getting people into housing, mental health treatment programs and addiction recovery. Putting more power and influence in the hands of people who cannot, demonstrably, manage their own day-to-day existence safely is not the right solution to the homelessness problem. We need to instead put more effort into programs that move people into safer housing situations and reduce the proliferation of criminal activities that have destabilized daily life for EVERY resident of Multnomah Country -- including both those living on the streets and those living and working in the houses, apartments, shelters and other spaces all around them.