Submitter: Susan Robinett

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

Dear Representative,

The public pays for public facilities, parks, and streets which are now being used by some homeless individuals for their own purposes, often prohibiting others from access. It is often not safe to use public parks. The parks are being degraded by trash (including needles and human feces) and the sidewalks and nature areas are being torn apart. I am afraid to use the parks as I know I would be forced to deal with these homeless camps there. Essentially the public is paying for things that they can't even use due to this.

I oppose HB3501. This is not the way to solve this homeless crisis. People are leaving urban areas because of government mishandling of our crisis. Do NOT decriminalize homelessness. The homeless need a pathway to full participation in civic life and they cannot be allowed to take over public facilities.