



Yes on HB 3115: Homelessness and Public Space

HB 3115 is Product of Negotiated Compromise Between Key Workgroup Stakeholders

- HB 3115 is a negotiated bill between Oregon Law Center, the League of Oregon Cities and representatives for individual local jurisdictions that provides a framework for cities and counties to develop policies on public space management that reflect the uniqueness of each jurisdiction, as well as the interests of all stakeholders and perspectives.
- The workgroup reached consensus on the principle that penalizing homeless individuals for the unavoidable consequences of homelessness is not in the public interest, as well as shared recognition that local communities lack sufficient resources to address the underlying causes that lead to homelessness.

Unlimited Bans on Homelessness “Survival Activities” Are Unconstitutional in Oregon

- In the *Martin v. City of Boise* case, the 9th Circuit ruled that homeless persons cannot be punished for sleeping outside on public property in the absence of adequate alternatives, or unless the law imposes “reasonable time, place and manner” restrictions on the regulated activities in public space. For now, this is the law in Oregon and, as a result, some communities are already in the process of updating their ordinances following the court decision.
- HB 3115 builds on these basic principles to bring clarity and guidance for local governments in the management of outdoor public spaces. It sets a new statewide standard for regulating these survival activities, directing that local ordinances be reasonable with regard to time, place and manner of the regulations as applied to persons experiencing homelessness.

HB 3115 came out of a workgroup effort consisting of groups historically opposed on these issues and resulted in a consensus product strongly supported by these key groups: League of Oregon Cities, Oregon Law Center, City of Beaverton, City of Hillsboro and City of Medford all support the bill.

We urge an Aye vote.