

Dear members of the committee,

I am writing you today in opposition of HB 3115.

At its core, HB 3115 is noble in the message and problem it is trying to solve. But in practicality it does nothing to address the root causes of homelessness. We don't hear often enough empathy from politicians for members of the community, businesses owners or public employees who have to deal with the downside of homelessness, drugs, needles, human feces, jugs of urine, trash, shopping carts, mattresses, tents. and the crimes that comes with it.

A state wide rule like HB 3115 isn't a fix-all for every city, county or municipality.

Bills like HB 3115 do little to address the root causes, this bill contains no funding for housing, this bill contains no funding for mental health, this bill contains no funding for employment retention. This bill merely tells local governments that they are not allowed to deal with the problems associated with homelessness. This bill is a band aid and if solving the homeless crisis was a priority to the State of Oregon we wouldn't be seeing bills like this.

Please oppose HB 3115 and focus on addressing the root causes of homelessness.