

Submitter: Dylan Evanston

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

Turning parks and other public spaces into sectioned camp sites is not a solution to a housing crisis. Allowing anyone who would like to do so to set up a tent and live in spaces we have, as a community, set aside for shared recreation and green space - and to give that use priority, such that removing structures or tents is itself a fine-able offense is a step backwards away from safe, usable, shared public spaces.

I am for the creation of sanctioned, safe, clean, spaces for people to rest without fear of being harassed, moved along, or otherwise bothered, but enshrining all public parks as potential dwelling spaces is not a good or even mediocre way to go about it. This bill will lead to further degradation of already challenging circumstances around park use for many communities across the state.

I urge you to vote against this measure.