

Submitter: Daniel Blackman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

I am writing you to ask that you vote no on Bill 3501 also known as "Right to rest"

Everyone has the right to public spaces but, When I can't walk down the street and feel safe I then lose the right to those spaces.

When I go camping I clean up I try my hardest to pack out all trash, as recently as March 2022 City of Salem approved almost \$500,000 to clean up Marion Square Park(<https://www.salemreporter.com/2022/03/15/salem-city-council-approves-nearly-500k-to-clean-up-homeless-camps/>). Then we had the homeless camp that was under I5 bridge and commercial street. Which I'm sure cost the city even more money. ODOT spends around \$3 million or about \$10,000 a day for restoration.(<https://centraloregondaily.com/homeless-camp-cleanup-costs-millions/>)

Again in 2018, Two Salem-area homeless camps closed, cleared by state highway crews. "...Transportation officials spent \$3.1 million between 2013 and 2017 clearing homeless camps across Oregon, according to agency figures, with costs increasing from \$261,000 in 2013 to \$943,000 in 2017..."(<https://www.statesmanjournal.com/story/news/2018/03/26/two-salem-area-homeless-camps-closed-cleared-state-highway-crews/459157002/>)

Again in 2021 at Casades Gateway

Park(<https://www.statesmanjournal.com/story/news/2021/11/06/salem-oregon-clean-up-continues-homeless-camps-damage-cascades-gateway-park-covid-19/8569909002/>), "...The hiking trails, fishing spots, new playground equipment and 18-hole disc golf course remain closed and unusable to the public.."

"..At one point, an estimated 200 to 300 people were believed to be living in each park.."

"..City officials said \$300,000 has been earmarked for restoration work at the two parks. (<https://www.statesmanjournal.com/story/news/local/2021/08/16/salem-cascades-gateway-park-closed-during-cleanup-homeless-covid-19-no-reopening-date-set/8157683002/>)

Since the park was closed in August, Public Works has spent \$125,500 on the cleanup operation in Cascades Gateway, city spokesman Trevor Smith said.

The money spent includes city labor costs of \$45,800, Service Master cleaning crew costs at \$60,500 and \$19,200 for September dumpster fees.."

"..Since Aug. 19, crews have removed about 1,800 cubic yards of garbage and debris, Smith said.."

"..Cleanup work included 250 cubic yards of debris removed from the forested areas

along Mill Creek.”

I can keep going. My point is when homeless take over an area they trash it. Making it unsafe for my kids to run around and play, for me to go hiking with my kids. Look at the amount of trash taken from just one clean up 1800 cubic yards and additional 250 cubic yards of trash and other wise around the River/Stream area. Killing animals and then ending up in our oceans killing even more life. On top of the cost to clean this up now the bill is allowing them to sue for being harassed, taking even more public funds? When does this end?

Personally I have had people dump garage on my property that cost my extra to clean up. I had a person sleeping between shrubs and my fence that I again had to clean up. Now with this bill When I tell them to move on I can be sued..

Lastly, this bill defines Public property as anything with an easement to the city. meaning my utility easement with both the city and PGE. My easement is written as "...access for the city and PGE officials to maintain..." not to allow the homeless to sleep on my property that I pay for in taxes.

I have linked the website to the articles I pulled my info from.

Please vote no on this bill. Thank you for your time and for considering my request.

Please vote no and do not pass this garbage bill.