

Submitter: S M

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

I do not believe decriminalizing street and sidewalk camping is a step in the right direction. Unhoused Oregonians need to be removed from the streets and given these options: access to support that leads to stable housing OR addiction treatment OR (for those who are simply houseless because they prefer to live on the outskirts of society) a bus ticket out of the city. I recognize that there are a number of people on the streets who don't want to be, and Portland is woefully unprepared to help these people. That's where our time and money should go. However, the folks who legitimately do not want to participate in society shouldn't be given free reign to terrorize the city. Allowing them to freely camp wherever they want is only going to make that problem worse!