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On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

We need to focus on resources and reducing homelessness (similar to what Cathy Clark has mentioned), not making it more acceptable. The tax payers have given substantial funds to reduce encampments, working on safe tent sites and providing more shelters. Reduced regulations for camping in the public will increase drug use, drug sales, public indecency, public defecation & urination, crime, petty theft, along with more garbage that may include dirty needles. Impacting the public safety, health and use of public space. This discourages use of public space for walks, games and individual enjoyment if full of tents. Many apartments dont have outside space with individuals paying taxes, why are we going to give public space to non-taxpayers and ultimately give them more rights.

This bill will create risks for the public in there safety. It will negatively impact our state tourism and the economy will continue to be disrupted leading to a continued decline, as a result of mismanaging resources, increasing homelessness that no one wants to see. The police have a very challenging job and this will present increasing issues for them to manage public safety and reducing theft, crime and drug sales. Reasonable small and large cities are minimizing encampments that have created positive gains for their constituents. Why is Portland wanting to go the opposite direction giving homeless individuals more rights than taxpayers.