

Submitter: John Pelonio

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

Most of this appears to be reaffirming existing constitutional rights for people to have equal protection under the law. It then provides for compensatory damages and a civil penalty. My concern is the language "Notwithstanding any other law or regulation of state government or local government..." which would prevent local governments from restricting camping in public parks. The language "...does not apply if the public space is closed to the general public or requires a fee for entry." would result in more local governments closing parks at night or requiring fees to keep the parks available for visitors. I suggest something allowing local governments to have regulations prohibiting camping in areas unsuitable for camping. Camping causes damage where facilities are not provided.