

Submitter: Nicolle Aleman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

I have a great deal of compassion for those who do not have housing in our community, but to ignore and further enable the very real environmental and safety hazards the recent explosion of homeless encampments in my local area have presented is incredibly problematic and irresponsible of the Oregon Legislature. My region is experiencing a serious uptick in crime due to this issue, and our local police force have made it very clear that their hands are tied due to bills passed by Salem. This bill will make this situation untenable for Oregon. I know people who own local businesses that have been severely impacted by this, including female employees experiencing sexual harassment on a regular basis. How is this ok?

To add insult to injury, the vast majority of residents in these encampments routinely refuse services and there are many shelter beds that stand open on a daily basis because they are not interested in following the sobriety guidelines or other rules expected of society.

This bill creates more problems than it solves. We need to find a common-sense, reasonable and compassionate approach to solving the homeless crisis in Oregon, but enabling bad behavior that negatively impacts other marginalized communities is not the right way. Do better.