

Submitter: Jonathan Dannevik
On Behalf Of: self
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure: HB3501

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to express my opposition to House Bill 3501, the proposed Right to Rest Act. While I understand the intent of the bill to decriminalize camping in public places, I believe that this bill will have serious negative consequences for our communities.

First and foremost, this bill will create a significant public safety hazard. Allowing people to camp in public places will increase the risk of fire, littering, and unsanitary conditions. Additionally, it will make it difficult for law enforcement to maintain order and respond to emergency situations in a timely manner. This will put both the homeless population and the general public at risk.

Moreover, this bill will also lead to a significant negative impact on the environment. Camping in public places will lead to increased littering and waste, as well as damage to public spaces such as parks and natural areas. This will not only negatively impact the environment but also create a significant financial burden on local communities to clean up these areas.

Lastly, allowing camping in public places will have a negative impact on the local economy. This will discourage tourism and business investment, as well as discourage residents from utilizing public spaces.

In conclusion, I urge you to vote against House Bill 3501, the Right to Rest Act. While I understand the good intentions of this bill, it will have significant negative consequences for public safety, the environment, and the local economy. I believe that we need to find alternative solutions to address homelessness that do not create these negative externalities.