

Submitter: Robert Elliott  
On Behalf Of: Self  
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness  
Measure: HB3501

Seems like Oregon is trying to become the homeless center for the country. Allowing our public places to be occupied without restrictions or regard for the neighborhood they may be in is wrong. I have no problem with helping those that are willing to help themselves, if an individual has no personal investment in working their way out of their situation. Unfortunately there is a segment of homeless folks that are not interested in bettering themselves or the community they may be in, they are only interested in the free stuff being offered and have little or no regard for anyone else. The locals have done a tremendous job of cleaning these camp areas, ODOT spends funds that would be better used on road repairs etc. The sad part of these efforts is that in a short period of time areas are again trashed, it's like spitting into the wind, messy and frustrating. Some politicians in Oregon must feel that pouring our tax dollars on the situation will solve the problem, I submit that it would only make it worse. The old adage that "build it and they will come" seems to be the case. I do not believe that all these folks are or were Oregon residents. As always, we should beware of the unintended consequences.

Respectively submitted  
Robert Elliott  
Bend resident and native Oregonian