

Submitter: Lisa Sorenson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

I have lived in Oregon my entire life and I was proud to raise my children in my hometown but now, my children can no longer enjoy the same parks I grew up playing in because of the overwhelming homeless camp sites, needles from increased drug use due to homeless populations in the parks and violent encounters from homeless in the parks. I am concerned we will have another set of fires this summer that are again started by homeless camping fires and I do not think it is safe to raise children exposed to multiple years of wildfire smoke. One of the more family friendly parks in Medford that we have taken my children to play at burnt up due to homeless activity with portable fires. It could have been worse but as it is, the children lose out on another playground that will cost over half a million to replace. This is wrong. Allocate money to create places for homeless to get mental health in patient help or to create a plan for them to have apartments built and funded by the state government but do not sacrifice our children's joy and safety. We don't need more wildfire liability! We want our children to enjoy their childhood in our clean, beautiful parks. This makes people leave Oregon and reduces tourism! Please stop. Vote no on this piece of legislation.