

Submitter: Frank Oulman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

HB 3501

Dear Legislators:

Please vote against HB3501. Think about the consequences of this Right to Rest bill! It will lead to problems that will make the State of Oregon go from bad to worse. What's happening in Portland will spread. Violence will spread. Frustrated armed property/home owners will revolt and take action. There will be bloodshed.

This bill places more value on the street people than on law abiding, tax paying, property owner. How can anyone support this? How would you feel if someone set up a tent in front of your home and then, out on the side walk defecated? If you said anything you could be fined. How would you like to try to walk the streets and have to fight the litter/trash/waste/animals in the way? Do you want to chance being assaulted or worse?

For the past 10 years we've seen a growing number of homeless (actually, those that have an RV are not really homeless) and all government has done is throw money at the problem without really doing anything constructive. What we have is a mess. First we need to isolate those WANTING to not be homeless and are willing to work toward it and help them get on their feet. Simultaneously we need to isolate the mentally ill and get them into an institution to assist them. Finally, we need to isolate those too lazy to work and kick them in the backside, not provide them with anything until they prove they want to be gainfully employed. We can help them get ready for entering the workforce like those willing to work, but there needs to be proof of a change in attitude and direction.

People won't try to improve their situation if we keep handing them freebies. Portland's answer by putting up tents on the sidewalks is not a solution. It's an invitation to all who live this way to move to Portland. Portland is dying from the lack of realistic and workable solutions to the problem and Oregon as a whole shouldn't follow their lead. We, the taxpaying public, should not have to face the lawlessness, the filth and the cost that current leadership has and is hinting at creating. It's time to stand up and do some meaningful work for those who you are representing.

Do you really want what's transpiring in Portland to spread all over Oregon. What's wrong with people thinking HB 3501 is a fix?