

To: House Committee on Housing and Homelessness

RE: HB 3501

We are adamantly **opposed** to this bill!

We are hardworking, tax paying citizens. Our tax dollars pay for many city services. The public streets, parks and land is for everyone to utilize on a temporary basis. It is for walking, cycling, picnicking or other temporary endeavors. If homeless put up tents any place they desire they are taking away our space and rights as citizens to enjoy the places that we pay taxes to maintain.

The tents are not intended to be a permanent home. People will suffer from the very cold and the very hot. Sanitation is a huge problem. Debris and filth accumulate around the current tents. This is unsightly and becomes a health hazard to those in the tents and the surrounding area. Rats and vermin will multiply and cause further health issues.

We didn't obtain our home for free and we don't appreciate people freeloading and infringing upon our rights.

The proper humane way to address the homeless situation is to house them in permanent housing, give them community support, and provide an avenue to self-support so they can maintain their dignity. IF they really want to live in a tent they can find a campground in the woods that is specifically set up for outdoor living.

Sincerely,

Charlotte and Isaac Tevet