

Submitter: Tina August

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

I really cannot express how absolutely against this I am. I live in a town where I used to freely ride my bike on the Bear Creek Greenway by myself and with my small children. I no longer enjoy doing this. There are homeless camps and endless amounts of trash entering our once beautiful creek. 10 years ago we would regularly play in the creek - this is no longer possible due to the elevated levels of fecal matter and the consistent discovery of needles in our public spaces. We have had to have numerous discussions about alcohol and drugs after our excursions as it is all being used out in the open.

There are homeless people in nearly every one of our public parks. I pay a lot of money in taxes and I am tired of not feeling safe in our public spaces. We have numerous entities helping the homeless,

We even have campgrounds that they can go to run by Rogue Retreat. Oregon's decisions to decriminalize small amounts of drugs have increased the number of homeless in our area - as per our local paper and police officers. I honestly can't even imagine what our community will be like if they are allowed to rest in place as they were during Covid. Our parks & public spaces

I'm Southern Oregon have still not recuperated from that time period. I would really like to use our public spaces without the fear that another Alameda fire will be started or that I will be coming in contact with drugs, needles and refuse. It is time to work on reducing our homeless population and not working to create more