

Submitter: Gretchen Bates
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3644

I am writing to oppose HB 3644. The State of Oregon has a dismal record on handling homelessness. Throwing money at the homelessness crisis has only exacerbated the problem. There are many more homeless, more drug addicts, more crime, and sadly, a greater number of homeless people dying on the streets of Portland and other cities now than just 5 years ago. Clearly, the State's approach does not work. So why then, would any thinking person believe that expanding that model throughout the state would be successful? The stark truth is that based on what has happened in Portland and other cities, HB 3644, will make homelessness, drug addiction and crime worse across the state, not better. I urge you to take a honest look at the State's track record. Can you honestly say the State has done a good job and thus their model should be replicated with \$200 Million of tax-payer funds?