

Submitter: Michelle Winner

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

I am opposed to this bill because it will tie the hands of government agencies, especially police even further. Our citizens will be giving up further public space to encampments. One has to only drive along Marine Drive to see the damage to wild space and the trash. Just last week my husband and myself were in McMinnville downtown and a homeless women started screaming obscenities at us and following us until we ducked into a restaurant to escape her. These folks are several groups of people: those who are mentally unstable, those who are good citizens down on their luck many with children or senior citizens simply trying to stay alive, and then the criminal and druggie squatters type. Unfortunately the bill can't or won't make that distinction to protect the public from the criminal and mentally unstable element the way it is written. The truly down on their luck need housing, the mentally afflicted need counseling and programs as do the drug addicted, but the criminals need to be locked up. As a tax paying citizen, I want them to get help and I want the streets, parks and public spaces back for all to enjoy. This is NOT A SOLUTION!