

Submitter: Jessi Smith

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

I oppose HB 3501, the “Right to Rest” bill.

Money would be better spent on building safe and affordable housing, or helping people gain employment or use the social safety system. This bill does not help to address homelessness, it only states to accept homelessness. It is not safe for people experiencing homelessness to live on the streets, facing the elements, violence, and lack of health care. It is not safe for people with homes to walk a city full of needles, feces, and unaddressed mental health and drug issues.

This is not a good solution for any person in Portland.

Please protect people experiencing homelessness by coming up with better proposals to keep them safe and off the streets. Please protect people with homes so they can enjoy living and working in this city. We can find ways to help that work for everyone. HB 3501 is not the way.