

Submitter: Alex Knoll

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

I don't think the authors of this bill are solidifying a citizen's constitutional rights without taking away someone else's. It's not constitutional, for one. This bill makes me wonder if those who authored are asking law abiding, hard working, responsible citizens to give up what they have worked for and switch places with someone who chooses or maybe sometimes has been forced not to be a contributing member of society. Do the authors of this bill understand how significant that is? That is the definition of anarchy.

Citizens experiencing homelessness should have the right to be left alone. As long as they are in an area designated for them. And as long as that area is not shared but everyone else. And there ought to be a time limit. You can't expect people to care if there are no consequences. The rest of society can't bear it. I know my child wouldn't. That is what you're asking her to do. I should not have to sacrifice my own peace and stability for someone else's. I have been very close to homeless several times. I would never expect someone to let me park my tent in front of their house on the sidewalk, be able to tell someone like a police officer "leave me alone or I'll sue you for \$1,000 and use it for income". All someone has to do in order to loiter and put themselves and others in danger is to say "I'm praying" while they're blocking traffic. Legally, according to the language of this bill, they can do that. They can set up a tent on the edge of the sidewalk and road, refuse to move, and no one has a legal right to move them? How are their rights greater than everyone else's?