

Submitter: Nicholas Walsh  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness  
Measure: HB3501

This bill is a tragedy for all parties. Legalizing homeless camping does not fix any problems, it is a cheap way to claim moral authority for “helping” people while allowing them to wither away in the streets devoid of any hope or dignity. It completely ignores a citizens right to feel safe while using these public spaces that taxpayers pay to maintain. I expect this bill to pass because it is an insane proposition, and that has been Oregon’s specialty as of late. Allowing lawlessness has been a theme in our cities for several years now, why not put it into law. If you wish to watch the further deterioration of our formerly beautiful cities, this is the perfect bill. The only thing keeping residents here is the hope that we can turn the ship around, but that hope is waning with every promise broken by our elected officials. I’m not even mad at this point, I’m demoralized. I’d be shocked if we did anything other than drive off the cliff we’re barreling towards.