



WHERE INNOVATION MEETS ELEVATION

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To: Dear Chair Meek, Vice-Chair Drazan, and members of the committee.

From: Kathleen Walker, City of Sandy, Mayor

Date: February 12, 2026

Re: Support of SB 1514 to Repeal HB 3115 (2021)

I am Kathleen Walker, Mayor of City of Sandy. I am writing in support of SB 1514 to repeal HB 3115 (2021) based on the following points:

HB 3115 Legal Standing Overturned by Supreme Court: HB 3115 is based on an outdated court decision that has been subsequently overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court. Despite the court's ruling, HB 3115 remains the law of the land in Oregon. It needs to be repealed and ORS

Limited Tools to Local Governments: The Supreme Court relied on the League of Oregon Cities amicus brief statements, that focused on how the Martin decision "limited the tools available to local governments for tackling [what is a] complex and difficult human issue".

Local Issues and Resources Vary: The factors that drive homelessness are complex and varied. Causes in Portland are not necessarily the same as in Sandy. Oregonians expect local control – it must be prioritized. Repealing or modifying HB 3115 advances that mission.

Common Interests, Various Levels of Support: Local governments have a common interest in working with State, County and NGO partners to provide temporary and long-term housing and support services to homeless individuals. That said, not all individuals are accepting of those services. Partner resources to address those issues also vary considerably across Oregon.

HB 3115's "Objectively Reasonable" Has Created Significant Confusion. The standards established by HB 3115 are poorly defined, have been inconsistently applied and left local governments exposed to threats of costly lawsuits. Local cities must be able to adopt clear, enforceable public camping ordinances in order to maintain community safety and standards.

Repealing HB 3115 Does Not Criminalize Homelessness. Repealing the existing law restores local governments' ability to adopt public camping ordinances in line with their communities' values. 2026 legislation would not include any new penalties or enforcement mechanisms.

Please help us restore local control and safety by **voting YES on SB 1514**, repealing HB 3115 to give our local governments more tools to humanely respond to unsanctioned public camping.

Thank you for your consideration of this important bill.

Kind Regards,

Kathleen Walker
City of Sandy Mayor