

Submitter: Patrick martin

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

I am Opposed to the “Right to Rest” proposition.

Making it legal for individuals to camp indefinitely on public grounds (sidewalks, in front of businesses, parks, etc.) in Oregon will have long-lasting and likely permanent impacts on Portland and surrounding communities. A bill like this will act as a catalyst to drive an increase in the Homeless population, as it creates laws making it difficult or impossible to move them once settled. If our goal is to help people in need, then giving them the ability to live and do as they please will not work.

Not only would this bill impact our communities and businesses, but it will also directly impact Tina Kotek’s ability to deliver on her top priorities for Housing and Homelessness. If “No one should have to live in a tent on a sidewalk” is still the priority, then let’s not create legislation that would only grow that problem.

Thank you,