

Submitter: Shelby Wilson
On Behalf Of: City of grants pass
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3644

To whom it may concern:

We have been facing a homeless problem like never seen before here in southern Oregon. I have lived here my whole life and never seen anything to this extent. As a citizen who abides by the law, works multiple jobs to make ends meet I feel unsafe and very unheard in regards to this problem.

I am all for helping people who end up homeless, I however am not for enabling homelessness and especially enabling drug addicts. Drug addicts are the majority of the homeless problem down here and are a category completely separate from real true homelessness.

Every non-profit I have talked to, looked into and visited with the exception of 1 has shown me that they are enabling. Their intention should be to work themselves out of a job. To help so much that these services are no longer needed. What motivation do they have to help this problem when that would mean they no longer have an income? What services are we providing by letting people who end up in this position think it's okay to live in filth, feces and no community integration? To let them stay in tents, surrounded by trash, drugs and criminals. How is that helpful in anyway? A real non-profit would be requiring becoming sober, assistance in that process, assistance in housing, employment and relearning how to be a functioning member of society. It's okay to hit hard times, it's okay to have made a bad life choice and need someone to help you get out. It's not okay for everyone to continually give them everything they need so that they may continue to lead the detrimental lives they are until they inevitably overdose or die from other causes of the lifestyle they have chosen.

Here in southern Oregon we were a direct target of the homeless lawsuit. Again, we are now a target of a new lawsuit. Nothing we have done has ever been enough to appease them. Clearly, the countless non-profit programs have made no dent in assisting them. I can attest to removing 100s of trailer loads of trash, to fecal matter clean up, 1000s of needles disposed of, 100s of canned goods thrown away and much more. I even had my own child be the victim of finding a needle during a park event and needing hospital care after. This state is lucky I didn't have the means to sue you for this asinine laws and bills you continually create to continue the enablement of this lifestyle.

I do not care your political views or ties. This to me has nothing to do with it. This is a human issue and needs a real true answer. If you're going to spend more of our hard earned tax payers money I expect it to finally be put to something that will actually

HELP these people. Stop expecting a camp to be acceptable, stop accepting using drugs to be okay, stop allowing people to live in literal piles of trash to be a normal everyday event. These people and all the rest of us “housed” people deserve to be safe, clean and get the help needed to live a healthy productive life.

You need to create sobering centers that work directly with housing and job programs. Disability programs to assist those who are mentally or physically disabled. You also need to STOP giving them the choice to live on public spaces anywhere they want. If someone choose the life of roaming around with no home, it's their choice, I wouldn't expect someone to pay for my choice to not have a house and to camp. I wouldn't expect someone else to clean up my trash, my poop, my jugs of pee etc. it is unacceptable and we've put up with it for 5 years.

We the people demand answers, we demand EQUAL RIGHTS. The only ones with rights are those who don't abide by laws and who have made bad life choices from those who seek pity and enable this. Stop enabling and for once in your life start helping all people! I can't go to any parks with my kids, I can't even go to a store safely now without an addict injecting themselves or much worse. Enough is enough. Fix it finally, before we do make our own lawsuit for violating “housed” people's rights.