

LD 1478

Submitted testimony 5.11.21

I would also like to testify live on Friday, but wanted to submit, for your review in advance, the attached comments made by the public and photos submitted last summer on the impacts on Portland's historic Deering Oaks park of the so-called "low level violations of law" by the homeless, cited in the summary of this bill.

I ask every Committee member to ask yourself: Would you think it was appropriate to tolerate these behaviors if they were occurring on State House grounds or in you own city or town?

These violations would be no longer be "subject to arrest and prosecution" if committed by a person who "lacks a home". But others who commit these violations would be. Is this fair?

What are the impacts on others, if one segment of the community is allowed to the engage in these behaviors without consequences?

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Friends of Deering Oaks