

Restore Local Control & Safety

Vote YES on **SB 1514**

Homelessness is a local issue that requires a local response. The factors that drive homelessness are complex and varied. The causes in Portland are often not the same as they are in Prineville. Oregonians expect their local leaders to be responsive to homelessness challenges in their community, but their hands are tied because of existing state law (HB 3115, 2021).

Existing law is based on overturned legal precedent. HB 3115 was enacted to codify the *Martin v. City of Boise* decision. That decision was subsequently overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court in *The City of Grants Pass v. Johnson*. Repealing HB 3115 would put Oregon in line with 49 other states and allow local governments to respond to local challenges in a manner consistent with their communities' expectations.

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 governments must have the ability 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 simply restores local governments' ability to adopt public camping ordinance in line with their communities' values. 2026 legislation would not include any new penalties or enforcement mechanisms.

The legislature must act in 2026 to restore local control and safety. The legislature has rightly prioritized housing and homelessness in recent legislative sessions - but Oregonians are not yet seeing results. The legislature must now recognize that local control must be a part of the solution and that HB 3115 has paralyzed local responses to unsanctioned public camping. Absent legislative action, a ballot measure has been filed for November 2026 to allow Oregonians to repeal this law through a vote of the people.



Fresh lawsuit hits Oregon city at the heart of Supreme Court ruling on homeless encampments



Grants Pass won legal fight on camps - but continues to lose control of its homelessness crisis



Data Shows Fires at Homeless Camps Remained a Large Portion of Portland Blazes Last Year



Judge blocks enforcement of Portland's daytime camping ban