

Dear Ms. Ross:

Please pass my comments on to the members of the Senate Committee On Human Services and Early Childhood:

Please vote NO on Senate Bill 629. As a woman who owns a business in the Central Eastside Industrial District of Portland, I have a particular interest in the safety of my women employees and women clients. My law firm primarily represents adults who were sexually abused as children or sexually assaulted as adults, so we are especially sensitive to the concerns of these clients. I give you this background to explain why I oppose SB 629 and urge you to oppose the bill as well. Homeless men camped out – alone, but especially in groups – may or may not include sexual predators, but they are frightening to many of the women who have to pass by them, who feel threatened and endangered.

There are many blocks and city parks where I won't walk alone, especially when it is dark in the evenings. I no longer feel safe walking alone in my city and I hear the same from my female employees, clients, and other women who work in this neighborhood. This problem seems to be worse since "Occupy Portland" a few years ago. There is a new batch of homeless men here in Portland who are mostly young and much more aggressive.

We need to do something about homeless people in Portland, but allowing them to camp on all public property is not the answer. Please consider the safety concerns of the women of Portland and vote no on SB 629.

Gilion Dumas



Gilion C. Dumas  
**Dumas Law Group, LLC**  
Weatherly Building, Suite 309  
516 SE Morrison Street  
Portland, OR 97214  
[www.DumasLawGroup.com](http://www.DumasLawGroup.com)  
503-952-6789  
[Rose City Reader](#)  
[Facebook](#)

[LinkedIn](#)  
[Twitter](#)