



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 400		DATE: 3/31/2025	
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCAT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person		SUBMIT DATE: 3/31/2025 11:57 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			
I am Fully in Support of this Bill and its intension to STOP this Illegal Conduct!			



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CYNTHIA L. JONES		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: singingblonde@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/30/2025 5:56 PM

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I support this common sense bill to secure property rights and promote public safety.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KORTNIE HUDDLESTON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kortniehuddleston@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/31/2025 10:49 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I urge you to oppose HB 400, which expands property owners' ability to swiftly remove "unlawful occupants" from vacant, noncommercial land. While protecting property rights is important, this bill risks harming vulnerable populations and exacerbating homelessness without addressing systemic inequities. First, HB 400 effectively criminalizes homelessness. Vacant land often becomes a last resort for unsheltered individuals when shelters are full or inaccessible. By enabling rapid removal from these spaces, the bill pushes people into further instability, forcing them into unsafe environments or criminalizing their existence. Punishing survival—sleeping in a vacant lot when no alternatives exist—is cruel and counterproductive. Second, this legislation ignores the root causes of homelessness. Michigan lacks sufficient affordable housing and shelter capacity. Over 10,000 Michiganders experience homelessness on any given night, with shelters routinely over capacity. Removing people from vacant land without providing housing, outreach, or services will only deepen cycles of poverty and displacement. Finally, the bill's broad language invites abuse. Granting property owners unchecked power to remove individuals from unused land prioritizes ownership over humanity. Absent safeguards, this could lead to discriminatory or retaliatory actions against marginalized groups, including low-income families, migrants, or those simply seeking temporary refuge. Rather than penalizing survival, we should invest in proven solutions: expanding affordable housing, shelter access, mental health resources, and eviction protections. Policies like "Housing First" reduce homelessness and save public costs. HB 400 does the opposite, undermining dignity and safety for those with nowhere else to turn. I implore you to reject this punitive approach and pursue compassionate, equitable strategies to address homelessness.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL DREYER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mdreyer93@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/31/2025 10:49 PM
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