

**HB 2244-S - DIGEST**

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Declares that, due to concerns about maintaining freedom of religious expression, religious organizations shall not be restricted from hosting temporary encampments for the homeless. A temporary encampment may be subject to reasonable compliance requirements related to public health and safety. However, no county, city, or town shall set less than ninety days as the maximum duration for homeless encampments.

Declares that fines may only be levied in cases in which the religious organization has clearly endangered the public health or safety of the community due to the presence of the temporary encampment.

Provides that any applicable permit fees for temporary encampments may not exceed five hundred dollars.

Requires counties, cities, and towns to respond to temporary encampment permit applications submitted on behalf of religious organizations within sixty days.