

Utah Homeless Bill of Rights

Preamble

Under the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Utah, all people possess inherent dignity and equal protection under the law. Lack of housing does not diminish a person's civil, human, or constitutional rights.

Article I — Equal Protection Under Utah Law

People experiencing homelessness in Utah shall not be treated differently under state or local law solely because of their housing status.

Article II — Life-Sustaining Activities

When no reasonable alternatives are available, people experiencing homelessness retain the right to engage in unavoidable life-sustaining activities necessary for survival.

Article III — Freedom from Status-Based Criminalization

No person shall be cited, fined, or arrested solely for experiencing homelessness or for unavoidable behaviors related to lack of shelter.

Article IV — Personal Property Protections

Personal belongings shall not be confiscated or destroyed without notice, lawful authority, and a reasonable opportunity for retrieval.

Article V — Due Process

All enforcement actions shall respect due process, including clear notice and reasonable time to comply.

Article VI — Access to Public Spaces

Public spaces are held in trust for all people and shall remain accessible on an equal basis.

Article VII — Privacy and Dignity

People experiencing homelessness retain the right to privacy, dignity, and freedom from unreasonable searches or humiliation.

Article VIII — Access to Emergency Services

Access to shelter, healthcare, food, hygiene, and outreach services shall not be denied due to lack of housing or identification.

Article IX — Freedom of Movement and Association

People retain the right to move freely and gather peacefully in public spaces.

Article X — Employment and Identification

People retain the right to seek employment and access identification and benefits necessary for stability.

Article XI — Voice and Participation

People with lived experience of homelessness have the right to participate in decisions affecting them.

Article XII — Accountability

Government entities shall promote training, oversight, and accountability to uphold these rights.

Closing Statement

Homelessness is not a crime. Housing status does not erase rights. A just Utah safeguards dignity and fairness for all.