

(GENERAL)

COMPTROLLER **258173**
FILE NUMBER

PROTEST

OF

PATRICK J. NESSER AGAINST PROPOSED
"LOITERING" LAW.

*6-7-67 - Notify - file (Send
copy of new bill)*

FILED MAY 22, 1967

C. G. ERLANDSON
COMPTROLLER AND CITY CLERK

BY *J. P. Fenton*

DEPUTY

ACTION OF THE COUNCIL

REFERRED

TO

MAY 22, 1967

PUBLIC SAFETY

REFERRED

TO

REFERRED

TO

REPORTED

DISPOSITION

JUN 12 1967

On File

RE-REFERRED

TO

REPORTED

DISPOSITION

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Mr. President:

Your

PUBLIC SAFETY

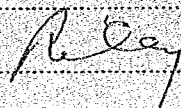
Committee

to which was referred the within protest

would respectfully report that we have considered the same and respectfully recommend that

THE SAME BE PLACED ON FILE

PS
CHAIRMAN


CHAIRMAN

June 12, 1967

Mr. Patrick J. Messer
3128 Wetmore Avenue South
Seattle, Washington 98144

Dear Mr. Messer:

On Monday, June 5, 1967, the Committee of the Whole of the City Council considered the proposed new "loitering law," and recommended it for passage.

Enclosed is a copy of said bill, which I trust you will find self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,

W. C. Heib, Jr.
Legislative Assistant

WCH:ew
Encl.

SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

MAY 18 9 31 AM '67

SEAN,
Seattle
May 17, 1967

Dear Sirs & Madam,

I have just finished reading an article by Marshall Wilson in this afternoon's edition of the Seattle Times. The article is headlined "Council Panel Backs 'Anti-Crime' Law".

By the information reported by Mr. Wilson is correct, I wish to register ~~the~~ my protest.

Altho much verbal discussion was made by me during the "Garbage Crisis", "the Go-Go fiasco", "the Name in the Center mess", the "Bullfight baloney", "the Timothy Leary bon", and "the Light Show comedy routine"—

I have never written my protest to you.

I have been a resident of Seattle since 1956, a student at the University of Washington and for the past five years an employee of the state. I consider myself a law-abiding citizen, but fully aware of the fact that some of our citizens are capable of "straying" from our so-called "normal" way of life... a fact whose reasons are seldom investigated as much as the sordid results are publicized.

I cannot for the life of me agree with the Safety Committee's recommendations for a so-called "anti-crime" ordinance.

How, at a public hearing, the Committee could ignore the pleas for re-consideration of their recommendation - by a MAJORITY of the people attending, is beyond me.

Mr. Johnunker (the assistant professor of law) to me made the best suggestion: look at the American Law Institute's "model penal code".

I suppose it is too late now to appeal to the four of you on the Committee (Mrs. Edwards, Mr. Riley, Mr. Best and Mr. Eckmann) as you have already directed Mr. Taylor to draft the proposal into

ordinance form, but I must ask (plead to) the City Council members to be careful before you have another "mess" on your hands.

I realize Police Chief Ramon's concern about reducing the crime rate in Seattle, his concern is in no way less than my own.

But I must say an ordinance such as is proposed is not only legally unconstitutional, but morally is a "black eye" to any so-called "forward-looking" metropolitan area.

Who is to say - when ^{or how} a person looks "suspicious"? A patrolman, who after all is human first and a police officer second — subject to all the prejudices and emotional responses as the rest of us ??

I would hate to think that some night after a party or social gathering with friends, I was stopped, questioned and possibly "taken in" because I "suspiciously" was weaving to a taxi-cab.

Cannot any of you see this? Please reconsider the recommendation before you voice possible approval and certainly before you consider making it an ordinance.

PATRICK J. NESSER
3128 DETMORE AVE. S.
SEATTLE, WASH. 98144

Yours truly,
Patrick J. Nesser