

I am writing to support HB 3239 which puts into place crucial legislation to establish limits on where cannabis may be processed, and requires a local fire safety plan for processing of such materials.

Currently, we the neighbors of Chehalem Mountains, are facing a cannabis hemp oil processing facility in our residential area. The environmental impact of processing cannabis for commercial production in remote locations is hazardous and careless; the necessity to use highly flammable materials to extract the CBD should alone give one pause. The recent Labor Day Chehalem Fire is now a very painful reminder of how quickly fire can spread and how horribly dangerous they are to people, animals and personal property. A well-publicized no burn advisory from TVFR did not stop an individual from building an illegal campfire, which grew quickly out of control with the help of a high wind storm and extreme dry weather. In order to put out the fire, a water bomber, procuring water from Hagg Lake was required.

The processing facility is located in our rural area which has a “Groundwater limited area” designation. The aquifer we so depend on as residents, would be threatened further as growing and processing of cannabis for commercial use requires huge quantities of water.

This site has limited access in which the roads are winding and part gravel. The local TVFR is 6.7 miles away, however, this area does not have fire hydrants. If a fire were to occur on this site, it would take at least 15 minutes for first responders to arrive.

I am not in opposition to **safely** producing cannabis and CBD products. The key word here is safely. HB 3239 would provide crucial regulations needed to provide safe areas to process cannabis and its products, and also guarantee there is a fire safety plan in place.