

This bill just makes common sense. Cannabis processing is an industrial process and should be treated as such. It doesn't make sense to allow cannabis processing in non-industrial settings such as residential areas and especially rural areas, which don't have the infrastructure to mitigate the significant associated fire risks.

I live on Chehalem Mountain and I had to evacuate my home last year because of a huge forest fire that swept through our area. That fire was ignited by a small campfire, and yet grew to consume 800 acres because of challenging terrain and no ready access to water sources for the firefighters. I shudder to think what would have happened if the fire had reached the cannabis processing plant which was very close to the fire zone. Next time, it could be the processing plant that starts a major forest fire. Let's prevent that from happening by locating cannabis processing plants in places where the fire risk and other hazards can be adequately managed.