

As a resident living in rural Oregon, I strongly support Bill 3239 which will direct chemical/refining type processing of cannabis to safer industrial zones and prohibit this activity in rural & residential Oregon. There has been well over 40 "media documented" cannabis fires in Oregon, many in rural settings that have caused thousands of acres to burn. The Oregon State Fire Marshall has admitted they are behind the times and currently do not have a code in their computer to track the actual number of cannabis related fires. As climate change and drought continue at their rapid pace, we can only expect more devastating fires in Oregon such as what we experienced as a State in 2020.

Cannabis processing also requires the storage of flammable chemicals prior to extraction as well as the disposal of used flammable chemicals. All of this does not belong in rural areas where First Responders must truck in water in tender trucks to fight the fires. In addition, some chemical fires require specialty foams to douse the flames and "waiting" for the delivery of those foams in rural areas could mean devastation before action. Yesterday, 3/16/21, an ethanol plant exploded into flames in Cornelius, OR. Ethanol is one of the chemicals used in cannabis extraction.

This House Bill also addresses the Safety of First Responders who are rushing into danger as we residents flee. Inspections & industrial zones are the least we can do to help protect their lives.

Thank you for your time on this very important subject matter.

Sincerely,
Rick & Lindsey Noss