

I have lived on Chehalem Mountain for over 40 years. My husband and I discovered this beautiful area in 1980 while looking for a vantage spot to watch Mt. Saint Helen's erupt. We "trespassed" on a vacant property so often that we felt we should just buy it. Which we did. My husband of 50 years passed away last May at the height of the first Covid-19 surge. My time living on my beautiful land is coming to an inevitable end. I feel a deep and abiding gratitude for having lived the best years of my life in one of Oregon's, as yet, undiscovered havens. My gratitude compels me to seek protection of this precious land for future inhabitants. My heart, my life, owes a debt to protect this land from being abused and depleted for monetary profits.

Legalized hemp growing and processing is a relatively new concept to Oregon. Creating laws and regulations governing and regulating this new industry deserve careful consideration. HB 3239 is essential, as a beginning, to establish essential frameworks for a new and arguably questionable industry. I wholeheartedly support this bill as essential for defining and creating parameters that protect environmental and landowner concerns.

Oregon is on the forefront of the legalization frontier. It is imperative that we get it right. The country is watching.