



Please Vote YES on HB17-1220

Prevent Diversion of Marijuana to the Illegal Market

Sponsors: K. Becker and Wist/Gardner and Priola

Since the passage of Amendment 64 almost five years ago, communities across Colorado have seen a steady increase in illegal home grow activity. Part of this is attributable to the fact that our state has some of the loosest home grow regulations in the country. While large-scale marijuana busts garner the attention of the media, the reality is that local law enforcement and county building officials are being called on **regularly** to investigate complaints about illegal growing in neighborhoods.

Large-scale home grows pose a public safety threat to our communities and endanger the well-being of our citizens by bringing a dangerous criminal element into our neighborhoods. Alterations to home electrical systems to accommodate large-scale growing activities pose a fire hazard to neighboring structures and endanger the safety of first-responders.

In response to these growing public safety concerns, counties and municipalities have begun looking at ways to address illegal home grow operations. One solution was to establish a cap on how many marijuana plants could be grown in a residential property. To date, almost a third of the counties in Colorado have adopted plant caps to combat illegal growing and public safety concerns in our communities.

HB 1220 builds on the success of these local caps by establishing a new default plant cap across the state. Under the bill, all residences in the state would be capped at 12 plants – unless a local cap allows a higher plant count. The bill respects local determinations on what an acceptable growing limit should be, while establishing baseline standards in other communities that will protect residents, firefighters and police officers.

CCI strongly urges your support of HB17-1220

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