



Marion County

OREGON

Board of Commissioners

(503) 588-5212
(503) 588-5237-FAX

May 4, 2015

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Janet Carlson
Kevin Cameron
Sam Brentano

Senator Ginny Burdick, Co-Chair
Representative Ann Lininger, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Implementing Measure 91
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Senate Bill 844 – Oppose in current form

Dear Senator Burdick and Representative Lininger:

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

John Lattimer

The Marion County Board of Commissioners is very concerned about Senate Bill 844, which removes restrictions on medical marijuana businesses, limits the ability of local jurisdictions to effectively regulate these businesses within their jurisdictions, and places excessive burdens on local law enforcement.

The most recent amendments to SB 844 place limits on the local jurisdiction's ability to effectively regulate the time, place, and manner of medical marijuana businesses, which means jurisdictions cannot substantially mitigate the impact of these businesses on neighborhoods and local residents. Marion County has developed an ordinance governing medical marijuana facilities that is working well in our county. We heard lengthy public testimony in our community, including medical marijuana supporters, asking for regulations in our ordinance which were included:

- No facility can be located within 1,000 feet of any boundary of a school, certified child care facility, pre-kindergarten, Head Start program, or community learning center.
- All owners, employees and volunteers of the business must submit to a background check.
- Business may not operate as a home occupation in any zone.
- No minors allowed on the business premises (with exception).
- No consumption of medical marijuana is allowed on the business premises.
- Business may not be open any day before 7:00 a.m. or after 10:00 p.m.

In addition, the bill excessively burdens local law enforcement by: (1) removing all limits on the amount of usable marijuana and marijuana products that a grower, caregiver, or patient can possess; (2) failing to mandate that law enforcement has access to the medical marijuana supply chain database; and (3) allowing excessively high numbers of medical

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Senator Burdick and Representative Lininger

marijuana plants at a single address. These provisions of the bill place excessive demands on local law enforcement already working hard to keep our communities safe.

For these reasons, we urge the committee to amend SB 844 to address these concerns. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Janet Carlson, Chair
Commissioner



Kevin Cameron, Vice Chair
Commissioner



Sam Brentano
Commissioner

cc: Marion County Legislative Delegation